THE

SANITARY COMMISSION BULLETIN.

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THE SANITARY COMMISSION BULLETIN *is published on the first and fifteenth of every month, and as it has a circulation, gratuitous or other, of above* 14,000 *copies, it offers an unusually valuable medium for advertising.*

All communications must be addressed to the Editor, at the office, 823 *Broadway, and must be authenticated by the names and addresses of the writers.*

As the continuance of the publication of the BULLETIN *is uncertain, depending on that of the war, and on the resources of the U. S. Sanitary Commission—the Standing Committee feels a certain degree of reluctance to solicit subscriptions for it—and thereby to pledge the Commission to its issue for a definite period.*

The Committee understand, however, that some of their friends to whom it is now sent gratuitously, express a wish to pay for it, and they therefore give notice that the sum of two dollars, remitted to the Treasurer, (G. T. STRONG, 68 *Wall Street, or No.* 823 *Broadway, New York,) will secure its being sent to such contributor during the remainder of the current year, unless its publication be sooner discontinued.*

"FEDERAL ATROCITIES."

The London *Times* says that we carry on our war against the Slaveholders' Rebellion "with a cruelty that far surpasses anything that can be laid to the charge of England, though the lapse of eighty years has softened war's manners and has caused humanity to be respected even in the camp." This is the repetition of an old story. For the last three years English peers and statesmen in Parliament and out of it have been making the "unprecedented inhumanity and barbarity" of our soldiers a most telling point in their oratorical apologies for slavery.

All this talk has had some effect in the circle of gentle and kind-hearted women in my little town, who have been busily working for the relief of our army, through the Sanitary Commission, ever since the war began. They look at each other and ask in whispers, are we really working for an army of cut-throats and ruffians, whose brutalities and atrocities exceed even those of the British soldiers, who stormed Badajos and Ciudad Rodrigo? We know war is a cruel business, but are the violence and brutality of our armies really *unprecedented?* If what these disinterested English outsiders say be true, we feel as if we ought to do no more work for men whose atrocities actually exceed the incredible horrors of which we read in history.

This is natural enough. We were all brought up to reverence England, and the grandfather of Mrs. Sniperfidgets, President of our Soldiers' Relief Society, is said to have been fourth cousin to the brother-in-law of a gentleman quite nearly related to the British Peerage. She is therefore naturally regarded as an authority as to the

opinions of the aristocracy of Europe, and she assures us that we are regarded in the "highest circles" abroad as conducting this war in a spirit of fiendish atrocity and ferocity, unknown since the days of Louis XIV. and the devastation of the Palatinate, and which British humanity could not endure for a single day.

Now it is quite true that soldiers in active service are sometimes guilty of criminal violence. No doubt there have been such cases among our hundreds of thousands of enlisted men—though the only reason I have for so believing is the appearance of an occasional newspaper paragraph, at long intervals, stating that Private so-and-so was duly hanged day before yesterday for some such offence. But this misfortune occasionally happens to people in civil life.

I wish, however, to show my humane and sensitive friends through the columns of the BULLETIN that whatever "atrocities and barbarities" our soldiers have committed are not in the least degree "unprecedented," and that the worst charges ever brought against them, true or false, fall far short of what a British historian records of British soldiers, in a campaign of which he was an eye witness, and which was conducted not "eighty years ago," but *six*.

I have before me a copy of "My Diary in India, in the year 1858–9, by William Howard Russell, LL.D., Special Correspondent of 'The Times.' In two volumes. London: Routledge & Co., 1860." Mr. Russell is a cool man of the world, and an experienced observer of campaigns, and this is the last considerable war in which our peace-loving philanthropic British critics have thought it profitable to engage.

Their persecution of the Maoris and their shelling and burning of a Japanese port or two, are more recent to be sure, but these are mere retail transactions, charged to the account of "petty cash," and are not entered in detail in the books of the British Empire. Let us see with what entire freedom from "cruelty" this East Indian campaign against native princes, whose titles date back for centuries, and who had risen against a foreign commercial tyranny, established among them partly by force and partly by fraud, was conducted by the humane and merciful armies of Great Britain.

On page 222, Vol. I, Mr. Russell tells us that "when Neill marched from Allahabad, his executions were so numerous and indiscriminate, that one of the officers attached to his column had to remonstrate with him, on the ground that *if he depopulated the country he could get no supplies for the men.*"

Just imagine one of Gen. Sherman's staff advising him that if he *would* persist in exterminating all the people on his line of march through Tennessee and Georgia, he would have difficulty in obtaining subsistence and forage!

At Lucknow, Mr. Russell informs us, (Vol. I, p. 301,) a certain house, occupied by rebels, was desperately defended. It was shattered by artillery at last, and then stormed. "Some of the Sepoys were still alive, and they," we are told, "were *mercifully* killed. But *for some reason or other, which could not be explained*, one of the number was dragged out to the sandy plain outside the house, he was pulled by the legs to a convenient place, where he was held down, pricked in the face and body by the bayonets of some of the soldiery, while others collected fuel for a small pyre, and when all was ready, the man was roasted alive. There were Englishmen looking on. More than one officer saw it. No one offered to interfere. The horror of this infernal cruelty was aggravated by an attempt of the miserable wretch to escape when half burned to death. By a sudden effort he leaped away, and with the flesh hanging from his bones ran a few yards ere he was caught, brought back, put on the fire again, and held there by bayonets till his remains were consumed. 'And his cries, and the dreadful scene,' said my friend, 'will haunt me to my dying hour.' 'Why did'nt you interfere?' 'I dared not.'" Mr. Russell adds, in a foot note, "I saw the charred bones some days after, on the plain." (P. 302.)

There is no evidence that any officer or soldier of our army, who renounced his allegiance and military fidelity, (like this unlucky Sepoy,) and went over to the rebels, has up to this time been roasted alive by any squad of patriotic and zealous Un-

ionists, belonging to a New York or New England Regiment.

"I must confess," says Mr. Russell, on p. 320 of the same volume, "that I do not altogether approve of anything but the extraordinary courage and self-possession which marked his (*Hodson's*) conduct in shooting down the sons of the King of Delhi, but" &c.

If one of our Colonels should capture a batch of blue-blooded rebel "Congressmen," and finding it doubtful whether he could carry them safely to headquarters, should proceed to blow their brains out, *seriatim*, I think the London *Times* and Lord Brougham would see little to approve in his "courage and self-possession."

It would seem that the armies of England made a most ungenerous use of the religious superstitions of these luckless Orientals, to render their death more bitter. Mr. Russell is unfortunately not very explicit on this subject, but his remarks suggest a great deal. "All these kinds of vindictive, unchristian Indian torture," he says, (vol. 2, p. 43,) "such as sewing Mohammedans in pig-skins, and smearing them with pork-fat before execution, and burning their bodies, and forcing Hindoos to defile themselves, are disagraceful, and ultimately recoil on ourselves. They are spiritual and mental tortures to which we have no right to resort."

So England treats her Oriental rebels. What would she say if we followed her example, (at a remote and humble distance,) and obliged every chivalric South Carolinian prisoner to take a liberated black man for his chum and bed-fellow?

"One of the civilians of the station who visited me," says Mr. Russell, (vol. 2, p. 82,) "boasted that he had hanged fifty-four men in a few hours, for plundering a village." Mr. R. thought the proceeding rather strong, but his friend regarded it with "intense satisfaction, and regretted that he had not more of the same work to do." Suppose General Rosecranz should "hang fifty-four men for plundering a village in Missouri!"

On page 295 of vol. 2 Mr. Russell says: "I heard a man tell a story which astonished me, not the tale so much, for I had heard *many of them*, as the way he told it —a very worthy man, no doubt, but what he said was this: On a certain occasion, in a recent celebrated action, a place to which I shall not more particularly allude, [politic Russell!] was strongly occupied by the enemy. Our men carried it with great gallantry, and bursting in, proceeded to kill all whom they found inside. The work was nearly completed, when this officer perceived a number of Sepoys crouching upon the flat roof of the enclosure. They had been firing on our men, but seeing the terrible fate of their comrades, they sought to escape notice, and had taken to this place of refuge. They made signs to the officer that they would surrender, and he ordered them to come down the narrow staircase leading from the roof, and as the first Sepoy appeared, he told the man to take off his belt and pouch and to lay it with his musket down upon the ground. The same thing he did with each succeeding Sepoy, till he had got them all, fifty-seven in number, upon which, he said, I fell them in against the wall, and told some Sikhs, who were handy, to *polish them off*. This they did immediately, shooting and bayoneting them, so that altogether they were disposed of in a couple of minutes." This prompt execution of justice was doubtless most creditable to Great Britain. Our national soldiers have never ventured on anything so masculine and vigorous.

At Lucknow, Mr. R. tells us, (vol. 1, p. 348,) "after the Fusileers had got to the gateway, a Cashmere boy came toward the post, leading a blind and aged man, and throwing himself at the feet of an officer, asked for protection. That officer, as I was informed by his comrades, drew his revolver, and snapped it at the wretched applicant's head. The men cried 'shame on him.' Again he pulled the trigger, again the cap missed—again he pulled, and once more the weapon refused its task. The fourth time—thrice had he time to relent—the gallant officer succeeded, and the boy's life-blood flowed at his feet!"

Whether this ornament to the service was promoted for his "distinguished conduct" in this affair does not appear, but what would we American barbarians have said, if Gen. Butler, for example, walking through the streets of New Orleans the day

after its surrender, had encountered an elderly secessionist with a young son or nephew of 12 or 14 accompanying him, and had thereupon produced his revolver and blown out the child's brains?

I think the humane and patriotic women who work for our soldiers need give themselves no concern about foreign lamentations over their violence and cruelty. No armies have ever shown themselves so forbearing and merciful as ours. Our national soldier is, in the language of the Morte d'Arthur, "the kindest man that ever struck with sword." England, at least, has no right to charge us with inhumanity, while Mr. Russell's record of her dealings with a rebellious colony at the antipodes remains uncontradicted.

A "Disillusionated" Anglomaniac.

THE WESTERN DEPARTMENT.

In the Field.

Dr. A. N. Read, writes from Nashville, on the 3d August, as follows:

According to your instructions I left Nashville the last of April, to give attention to the work of the Commission in the field.

On my arrival at Chattanooga, I consulted with Surgeon G. Perin, U. S. A., and Medical Director, and subsequently with Gen. Thomas, as to the best manner in which the Commission could aid in the care of the sick and wounded.

The great difficulty was to secure transportation, and the question arose as to the practicability of the Commission furnishing their own. It was deemed best not to do this, but to depend upon Government teams. As it was expected that soon after the movement of the army, large supplies of stores would be needed, I sent you on the 27th the following telegram:

"Can you send twelve thousand pounds of milk, eight thousand bottles of spirits, and a general supply of delicacies? How soon?" Dr. Perin, added the following indorsement: "Please forward as soon as possible."

G. Perin, U. S. A., Medical Director,
Medical Director's Office, April 27, 1864.

I then visited a portion of the troops in the field, and at Ottawah a Brigade Hospital in charge of Dr. F. M. Cook, Surgeon 101st Ohio Regiment. It contained only forty-four patients, but they were from different States, as follows: Ohio, thirteen; Indiana, ten; Illinois, four; Pennsylvania, one; Iowa, five; Michigan, two; Kentucky, nine. I mention this, as the doctor showed me a letter from a friend of State Agencies, asking him to send for stores for Ohio soldiers exclusively, which, as you can see by the inmates of his hospital, he justly declined to do. This hospital had received some, outside of the brigade. The patients all had beds and bed-ticks filled with straw. The bunks were made by the Surgeon and his attendants; every sick man had a pillow; the beds were clean, the food good, with a liberal supply of vegetables, such as potatoes, onions, pickles, etc. They also had milk, and every day each man was served with stewed fruit. The Surgeon remarked that "all these were obtained from the Sanitary Commission, and could be had in no other way."

Soon after this visit, the army advanced, and on May 1st, in company with Dr. Perin and my brother, I visited Ringgold, for the purpose of obtaining a suitable room for medical and sanitary stores. We took an order from Gen. Thomas, that rooms should be furnished us, and secured a suitable one. for the Purveyor's stores and our own. This accomplished, we returned, and immediately 175 packages of stores were forwarded.

About this time Dr. Perin, by his own request, was relieved from his duties as Medical Director. We parted from him with sorrow; he had been a faithful and efficient officer, ever ready to aid us in our work, and to give us a reason, if he could not.

As most of the troops had left Knoxville and joined this army, I telegraphed Dr. M. M. Seymour, Sanitary Inspector, in charge of the work in the Department of Ohio, asking him to come and aid us in the anticipated work. He came promptly, and until he was disabled by sickness, gave invaluable assistance. Mr. F. R. Croy also came back with him, and for a time took charge of the storeroom at Ringgold.

Our plan for the campaign was to have an Agent of the Commission with each Army Corps, and, if possible, with each Division, whose business should be to supply them with stores and attend to their

distribution, and, as soon as possible, make lists of casualties; the stores to be obtained from the nearest railroad depot to the army.

During my visits to the regiments I found much complaint, and much cause of complaint, of the fraud practiced by sending inefficient men for the new recruits. Some were sent who had been twice discharged for disability, others were deformed—one was blind in one eye—had double scrotal hernia, and deformed hands. Of one squad of men drilling, none were over fifteen years of age, by their own confession.

On May 6th, our army had passed Ringgold, and a battle was daily expected. For several days there had been skirmishing, and many wounded were brought to Ringgold hospitals. Many Surgeons called and anxiously inquired what we could do for them. We had only enough for present use on hand, and I could only tell them that stores were expected daily in much larger quantity.

About this time I invited Rev. Mr. Smith and Mr. Lawrence, of the Christian Commission, to join us in our work, assuring them that all our stores should be as freely given to their agents as to ours, and upon the same terms. This invitation was accepted, and we worked in harmony.

I cannot better give you a knowledge of our work at this time than by extracts from my journal:

"May 7th, telegraphed to Nashville, for pails, cups, brooms, spoons, lanterns, and other hospital stores.

"May 9th, sent back stores to Tunnel Hill—Mr. H. Tone arrives, and goes with the Army of the Tennessee. The same day, 350 wounded men were placed in the hospitals at Tunnel Hill; a storeroom had already been opened there, and milk, beef, ale, crackers, oranges, lemons, clothing, rags and bandages were ready and freely used.

"On the 10th, Mr. Croy brought up all the stores left at Ringgold, and during the day a list of wounded was taken and sent to the Hospital Directory at Louisville."

At evening I was informed by Dr. Kilton, Medical Inspector, U. S. A., and Gen. Sherman's Medical Adviser, that a movement of the army was being made, which would expose our goods to raids from the enemy; that the wounded would be immediately sent to Chattanooga, and our goods should be sent to Ringgold. Ten wagons were procured of the Medical Purveyor, and such goods as were not distributed, or could not be taken with the army, were returned.

Many goods were distributed, and the Agents of the Christian Commission joined us in the work. We gave to wounded men goods marked, "Cincinnati Branch U. S. San. Com.;" "Boston Branch," "Pittsburg San. Com.;" "Soldiers' Aid Society of Northern Ohio," "Chicago," or "Western Branch," etc.

The freewill offerings of the people from all parts of the country, were thus brought together, and given in the most Catholic manner, even as they have given their sons.

On the 11th, Government stores, sanitary stores, and the wounded, were all sent to the rear.

As we were greatly distressed lest a battle should occur, and we should not be fully supplied with stores, on the 12th instant I sent you the following telegram: "In case of a battle we have barely sufficient stores at the front for two or three days. There are none at Chattanooga. The wounded have been sent there, and we cannot aid them further. Are there sufficient stores on the way? The articles wanted are milk, beef, spirits, tea, sugar, oranges, lemons, farina and ale. They are most wanted in the order mentioned."

Most of the agents went to the right with the army. I remained with that portion left in front of Buzzard's Roost Gap, where every day some were killed or wounded, until the 13th, when our army had left Snake Gap, and the rebels left their strong position in front of us. At 10 o'clock of that day, I engaged a storeroom in Dalton, and sent back for stores. The stores engaged contained some private goods, including several boxes of tobacco. This, with other stores, was taken a few hours later by our soldiers, and the goods appropriated. For some time it was passed by. I had thrown open the doors, put up a small sign, that it was taken by the Sanitary Commission—and

standing in the door as the soldiers would attempt to rush in, it was sufficient to say, "This is a Sanitary Commission Storeroom," and they passed, notwithstanding the crowd became every moment more excited and more dense. However, an entrance was effected at a back door, that I could not guard, and the goods were taken. After this was done, I made arrangements for putting the room in order—telegraphed to Ringgold for stores, and then returned with the Rev. J. C. Hoblit to that portion of our army which had made the flank movement, and passed Snake Gap.

As we came within hearing, we found that a battle was in progress. We hastened on, found the hospitals of the different divisions along the line of battle; secured teams to go to Dalton for goods, and returned with them; found our goods already arrived, and loaded six teams that night, which started back without delay. At this time, I had the pleasure of meeting with the Rev. Geo. B. Bacon, of Orange, N. J.; Rev. John Milton Holmes, Pastor of the First Congregational Church of Jersey City; Rev. Dr. J. P. Thompson, of New York City, and Rev. Dr. J. W. Buddington, of Brooklyn. The two last mentioned gentlemen were agents of the Christian Commission, and came with kind feelings to all who were laboring for the soldiers. They were fatigued, as they had ridden the two previous nights in box-cars, but decided to go on with our goods the same night. We could give them no better conveyance, and they rode in army wagons with Dr. Hazen, Mr. Brandreth, Mr. Pocock, and Mr. Murray, Agents of the Commission. They started at half-past ten.

Not knowing whether there was communication between Ringgold and the army by the way of Snake Gap, I telegraphed the agents there to ascertain, and if there was none, to transfer the goods to Dalton.

Having made the arrangements, Mr. Hoblit and myself slept until 4 o'clock the next morning, when I made a cup of coffee, while he fed the horses, and we started in season to reach Wood's Division Hospital at 7 o'clock. One load of stores was unloaded there, and Pocock left in charge of them, and to collect a list of the wounded; before 8 o'clock another load was left with Stanley's Division, in charge of Murray, and about the same time two loads reached the two divisions of the 23d Corps, which had been in the battle, in charge of Mr. Brandreth, while Dr. Hazen took two loads to Morton's Division, holding one load in reserve. The fighting continued all day, and the stores were ready when most wanted. Drs. Thompson and Buddington remained with the 23d Army Corps, where we joined them about the time of their arrival. Here many wounded were lying on the ground, outside of the tents, their wounds still undressed, although all were at work. At the same time, the wounded continued to arrive. I introduced my friends to Surgeon Hewitt, Medical Director of the Department, and also in charge of these hospitals. They placed themselves under his direction, and he seeing that they were much fatigued, advised them to sleep a few hours, which they did under a friendly shade tree.

Leaving these two hospitals thus provided, I passed on to others, but not before I saw many oranges and lemons in the hands of the wounded and thirsty, as well as the more substantial articles of milk, beef, crackers, etc.

This visit of the clergymen just mentioned, was just in time to be of much good to the wounded, and it was very pleasant and did much to encourage and strengthen us. It was good to have the sympathy of good and wise men, to be assured by them that they fully approved our plan of work. They saw at a glance the great benefit of working under the direction of the Surgeons; they felt as they said, more at home—avoided confusion by interference with others, and were enabled to accomplish much more than they could by an independent effort.

This day I visited twelve hospitals of divisions on the field, saw that the six loads brought reached their destination, and made necessary arrangements with my associates to collect and forward lists of the wounded. But the work was not yet done. Just at night, there was severe fighting by the 20th Army Corps, in which they had over twelve hundred wounded in two divisions, and a less number in another division. I secured three teams to go to Dal-

ton that night for stores; brought up those held in reserve on the field, and obtained volunteer help from the 1st Division Hospital of the 4th Corps, to aid in feeding the wounded. So well was the hospital supplied with help, that this was scarcely needed, and by ten o'clock they were all well fed, the work being greatly facilitated, or even made possible, by the supply of extract of beef and condensed milk on the field. By ten o'clock in the morning of the next day, complete lists of the wounded were on the way to Louisville. The same day the three wagons sent to Dalton returned, loaded with valuable supplies, sufficient to last until the hospitals were moved to the railroad at Resaca. The enemy left our front the same day, and leaving my associates with these hospitals, I rode to Resaca, and the same day to Dalton, that I might hasten forward stores to Resaca, where the next hospitals were to be established. Here the wounded were brought from Division Hospitals and placed in General Hospital, previous to being sent back to Chattanooga on the cars.

At Dalton, I found it necessary to go back to Chattanooga, after leaving directions to send forward all the stores, reserving only sufficient to feed those sent back.

On the 18th, the hospitals were established in Resaca, and Dr. Hazen telegraphed me that stores were very much wanted, that the men were starving. For two or three days there was a deficiency of stores, as it was found impossible to obtain a sufficiency of transportation, but after that the Surgeons in charge assured me they had all they wanted.

While in Chattanooga, I visited the Hospital Garden, found that it had suffered from frost, drought and hail, the frost killing several thousand tomato plants the night after they were planted from the hotbed. The drought has checked the growth of many early vegetables, and the day previous there had been a severe rain with hail, which was so violent as to wash a large part of the onion sets out of the ground, and apparently to cut the tender vegetables all to pieces. The gardener was very much discouraged, but the rain was just what was needed, and I saw at a glance that the vegetables would recover from the effects of the hail, and there were sufficient tomato plants to replace those that were killed by frost.

So, I assured him while he was fretting as badly as a mother over a sick babe, that in two weeks he would feel as well as that mother would on her babe's recovery—that the rain would more than compensate for the damage done by the hail; that the only evil was to make more work, and to check the issues for a few days, and then the garden would be better than before.

On the 19th, in company with two of our agents, Mr. Crary and Mr. Barrett, I returned to the front, but left Rev. Mr. Bacon and Dr. Seymour, sick at Chattanooga. Soon after a storeroom was fitted in Resaca; then Kingston was taken, and a depot taken and filled there. At this place, the army was ordered to take twenty days' rations, and leave the railroad. Before starting, each division was notified that they could be furnished with a load of stores to take with them. Many sent teams, and they were loaded. Where this amount of transportation could not be furnished, a team was obtained for the Corps, thus taking a load which was to be divided with its Division Hospitals. Gen. Howard, being very short of transportation, gave one of his headquarter teams to take goods for the 4th Corps.

Many of the goods taken at this time were furnished by the Western Sanitary Commission. Such goods as could not be taken and were not distributed, were sent back to Resaca for safety, as Kingston was to be left liable to raids. From this place Dr. Webster started with the 20th Army Corps; Rev. Mr. Fairchild, with the 14th; Mr. Brandreth, with the 23d; Rev. J. C. Hoblit, with the 4th, and Mr. Pocock with the 15th. We left to take the fortunes of the army, not knowing when we could again communicate with the rear.

The first night after leaving, Dr. Webster was taken sick, and not deeming it prudent to go on, the next morning he returned. The same morning, under a covered bridge over the Etowah River, was found a wounded soldier. We learned, by letters in his pocket, that his name was Chas. E. Eteler, Company E., 15th Ohio, and that his wife lived in Mount Pleasant, Jefferson County,

Ohio. Arrangements were made to notify her, and to send a lock of his hair, which was cut off and washed from his blood. I left him in the care of a good man of the Christian Commission, who was fanning him, giving him occasionally a little brandy and water, and making efforts to rouse him, but he died without making an intelligent sign.

We rode on, and reached Raccoon Creek at night, but could not find shelter, and were separated from our wagons, begged a cup of coffee from our soldiers, and ate our hard bread for supper. A severe thunder storm came up, and we took shelter under one of the wagons which had been parked on the bottom near the creek, after having sought in vain, by the light of the "storm fire," for something better. After staying there a part of the night, and until the storm passed over, I was invited into the tent of Lieutenant Ayres, of the Sixth Ohio Battery.

The next day in the afternoon commenced that series of battles near Dallas, which were continued with greater or less severity until the 5th of June—ten days. The hospitals were located south of Pumpkinvine Creek, on or near the Marietta Road. At the commencement, they were well supplied with the stores they brought from Kingston, as well as with fresh beef, but subsequently the great number of the wounded exhausted the stores, and teams were obtained and sent back for more supplies. This was repeated sufficiently often to supply all the most urgent wants. In these woods were located the hospitals of the 20th, 23d, 14th and 4th Army Corps; and a little later those of the Army of the Tennessee, even brought from the extreme right to the left, and located with them. The soldiers had been at all times well supplied with rations, except fresh vegetables, but during this time the horses were reduced to four pounds of grain a day, and for three days many of them had none, and could obtain but very little grass. From these woods, the wounded of the 20th Army Corps were sent back to Kingston in ambulances and army wagons. They suffered dreadfully by the movement, several of them dying by the way. Although several of the worst cases were sent to the First Division Fourth Army Corps' Hospital to remain—men were sent with compound fractures, recent amputations, gunshot wounds through the body—over twenty miles or more of rough road—and when they reached Kingston there was inadequate hospital accommodations for them, and for a time many of them had no beds but the ground, and no shelter.

It is but just to Dr. Kilton, to say that he disapproved of this, and assured me it was done without orders from headquarters, and that he thought it would have been better if they had fallen into the hands of the enemy. The officers of the Corps and the wounded men both thought differently. It is difficult to say which were right. In such a campaign where changes are unavoidable, there must be much suffering. During these ten days before we reached the railroad at Acworth, we distributed not less than twenty-four large army loads of sanitary stores, along the line of battle. Estimate who can the worth of these at such a time.

Early on the morning of the 27th, there was more than the usual sound of battle, and the Surgeons had been notified the night previous to make additional preparations for more wounded. While this is being done, stragglers come back from the front, some sick, others shirking duty in the hour of danger, leaving their companions to stand or fall alone; some pleading a lame back, others lame arms from bad vaccine pustules, some sore feet, others had been ailing for several days, and had "*gin-rot*," could not march, but had marched back more than a mile—could have found the enemy by going forward half that distance. These were examined by a Surgeon appointed for that purpose, and the shirkers sent back under guard.

As the battle progresses, the wounded are more rapidly brought in; and I saw one placed upon the tables, chloroform administered, his arm examined, and amputated. As he comes to himself, he says, "you had to take it off, doctor; I did not feel it, but every one likes to have his arm, if he can." His torn and bloody shirt is taken off, and a clean one from the Commission stores takes its place.

They are soon brought in faster than

their wounds can be dressed, the ground for some distance around the tables being covered. Most of them are cheerful, now and then I hear a stifled groan. I notice one with face and hands black with powder and dust, lying upon his back, resting partially upon his elbows, his hands uplifted, slowly approach each other, and then as slowly separate—his face is calm, and his lips move slowly as if in prayer; no groan escapes him, although his wound was frightful. Is it for himself, victory for his comrades, or some dear friend at home, that he prays? So great is the number of wounded, that Mr. Pocock goes back to Kingston for more stores. In the meantime I send a telegram to Chattanooga, to be repeated, if deemed necessary, to Louisville, urging the necessity of keeping up our supplies; that we want at least sixteen hundred pounds of milk and beef at the terminus of the railroad all of the time. This will not give to each hospital more than one box a day for four days.

During the ten days of fighting there were frequent changes of the hospitals made necessary, as the army took different positions. As soon as we had possession of Acworth the wounded were moved there, to await the opening of railroad and transportation to prominent hospitals. This movement again caused much suffering.

We opened a storeroom in Acworth, but before goods were brought by rail, several loads were brought from Kingston by teams. Our goods had sometime previously been brought back to that place. Within a few days, the army again advanced, and every thing connected with the hospital was moved with it, except tents, barely sufficient to cover the wounded, a few Surgeons and nurses, and a very little hospital furniture. Those who remained were left very destitute, were overworked, and had very little to work with. At no time was help from the Commission more needed, or more freely and liberally given. This help may be forgotten, but it was appreciated at the time. From the storeroom at Acworth, not only the hospitals there but at Altona, and those with the army during the long series of battles at Kenesaw and Lost Mountain, were supplied. For a time the Western and Sanitary Commissions put their goods in the same room, and they were issued as common stock, but subsequently they removed to Big Shanty, and to avoid duplicating our issues, they gave mostly to the Army of the Tennessee, while we distributed alike to the rear, and to those of the Army of the Cumberland and of the Ohio in the field.

On the 13th of June, the number of wounded in the field and at Acworth and Altoona, was two thousand three hundred and seventy-nine; of these six hundred and forty-nine only were wounded, all others had been sent to the rear. This was the condition of the hospitals just before the fighting before Marietta and Kenesaw Mountain, which continued from June 11th to the 27th, without interruption. Almost daily the troops took some new positions, and the hospitals were moved to accommodate them, and every day each hospital was visited by our agents, lists of casualties taken, and as stores were wanted, teams were obtained and sent to Acworth for them. Subsequently the advance of the right wing made it necessary to open a store room at Big Shanty. A room was obtained, cars loaded, but the evacuation of Kenesaw by the rebels enabled us to take them to Marietta.

Thus again, during sixteen days more of fighting, day and night, including that terrible assault on the works of the enemy, were our goods placed in the hands of Surgeons, or distributed to individuals by our agents, along the line of battle, and frequently under heavy fire. The Surgeons construed an order of Gen. Sherman's to require them to place their hospitals much nearer to the line of battle, although previously one man had been wounded while in hospital, and the whistle of minié balls was not uncommon, yet, during these days here they were placed. While Mr. Hoblit was copying lists of wounded, a ball passed through the tent close by his side. One of the hospitals of the 20th Corps was broken up in confusion—so thick did shot and shell fall among them. There was constant rain, and the roads were almost impassable, thus increasing the difficulties of transportation, but by the constant efforts of the agents with the different divisions, goods were brought forward, and the wounded

were thus from day to day supplied at a time when only the army ration could be otherwise obtained. There they were most wanted, and most gratefully received.

The strong expressions of thankfulness at the unexpected gift of a drink of water, a lemon or orange, a dish of soup, a cup of coffee, or a clean shirt, a pair of drawers, a blanket or a pillow, would seem to disparage the work done by the Government, which, after all, is the soldiers' best friend, and his chief support. Compared with what he receives from this source, all is but a trifle.

Each division of the army has a large number of teams devoted exclusively to hauling hospital tents and hospital stores, besides which there is a reserve train of over forty wagons for the Army of the Cumberland. Those with the divisions accompany the troops, and move up to the places selected for hospitals. This is usually so near the line of battle, that the wounded may be carried but a little distance, and get out of reach of shot and shell, that they may not be disturbed, and the Surgeons and nurses may work without danger. It must be near water, as that is indispensable.

Suitable ground having been selected, men are detailed to make the necessary preparations. They have usually been established in dense woods, and one set begin to cut up by the roots the dense underbrush, others make brooms of the twigs, sweep and level the ground, and remove the stones; another set pitch the tents, or build arbors when there is not likely to be sufficient canvas to cover the wounded; others make bunks of poles to make the beds; another set pick the green leaves of the oak, the chesnut, or the pine, to fill the bed ticks, or, if the ticks are not to be had, the leaves are placed on the poles, or on the ground. In front of the tent large piles of leaves are laid, upon which the wounded are to be laid to be examined and dressed. There are three piles for each Division Hospital, corresponding to the Brigades, and before them are three strong tables—provided with a pillow, and covered with a rubber cloth—"the operating tables." Tents for cooking must be put up, sacks must be dry—and while all are busy, and before the work is half done, the wounded may sometimes be brought in. They either walk back as they are able, or are sent back in ambulances. If the battle is severe, the leaves prepared are soon covered, and hundreds are laid upon the ground around the tents, as was done at Resaca, where not less than twelve hundred were brought to two hospitals in a few hours.

Among the sufferers, most are quiet; some are crying from pain; some calling for water, and some for a blanket to cover them; others for the Surgeon; and amidst all this comes the Agent of the Sanitary Commission, with loads of milk, beef, crackers, spirits, tea, blankets, pillows, bandages, and perhaps a few boxes of lemons and oranges.

With the beef, soup can be made at once. Coffee is made rich with the milk, or milk punch; and many among this number, will be found to be cold, shivering, thirsty, life failing from the first shock of injury; but, by the administration of these timely stimulants they revive. A lemon or orange is given, and with eagerness is pressed to their thirsty lips, and they thank God for the Sanitary Commission, and regard it as *home* following them to battle and to death. They do this justly, and it is good to be the dispenser of such help at such a time.

Over three hundred of such hospitals as I have attempted to describe, have been put up during this campaign, so long has been the line of march, and so frequent the change of position, and every one of these has been visited by the agents of the Commission with stores, and to obtain lists, and to learn the condition of the wounded.

But what has the Government done? Let the tents erected, beds prepared, medicines and food furnished, ambulances which have brought them in from the field, nurses who wait upon them—Surgeons who work day and night until all are dressed—answer. And it is no wonder that the faithful Surgeons who have done, or superintended the doing of all this, and continue to do it from day to day, are just a little disturbed, when their work seems to be less appreciated than ours.

But it seldom disturbs them, and they regard us as their best friends.

From the storeroom established in Marietta, each division was again furnished with a load of stores, previous to crossing the Chattahoochie; and large supplies were distributed to the hospitals in town.

The wounded have been well cared for, considering the frequent changes, and the great distance from permanent hospitals. True, there has been great suffering during transportation, both in ambulances, army wagons and railroad cars. Some have been sent without suitable food or drink, and sometimes a Surgeon has been sent in charge, who was selected for duty, simply because "he was of no use here, and could be as well spared as not." But such appointments have been few, as there are but few such Surgeons to be found. As to the lack of food and drink on the cars, the cause, on inquiry, has never been found to have been from want of interest in the comfort of the men. I will cite an instance: As the wounded were sent from one of the divisions of the Fourth Army Corps, at Big Shanty, an order was given by the Medical Director to send rations. It was found that there were none in camp, but the teams were starting to obtain them. Then an order was given to supply the men before they took the cars; but it was not done—why, I do not know. Perhaps the teams could not meet in time. The Surgeon had given the necessary order, and, perhaps, even now believes it was obeyed. At no time have the wounded been as promptly brought from the field to the hospitals. From this I judge that the ambulance organization is a success.

To the men sent, as these were, the aid of the Commission is inestimable. At the feeding stations established at Kingston, Resaca, and Dalton, over seventeen thousand meals were furnished up to the first of July, consisting of beef-soup, milk punch, soft bread or crackers, and boiled ham. Mr. E. J. Eno, State Agent from Illinois, also an agent of the Commission, has had the superintendence. He and his agents have been aided by agents of the Christian Commission. I left Rev. J. C. Hoblit, Messrs. Eno, Mason, and Brandreth with the troops in the field, assisted for a time by the Rev. Mr. Wolcott, of Cleveland, Ohio; Messrs. Van Dike, Johnson and Sutliffe, in charge of the feeding stations.

From the Hospital Garden in Chattanooga as many as six thousand bushels of vegetables have been issued. The one in Murfreesboro' was furnishing more than could be used in the hospitals in that place, and they ask for a large number of cans to put up tomatoes.

From Chattanooga to Nashville transportation has been much better than before; a feeding station has, however, been established on this line at Dechard, in charge of Dr. Hillman. I should not omit to state that these stations have been established by request of the Medical Director of the Department, and rations have been furnished by Government. I have failed to receive a full account of the amount of stores issued during the campaign, but it has been large, and in many cases has been *life* to the wounded.

Scurvy is largely on the increase, compared with the commencement of the campaign. Perhaps it is not increasing as much now, as a few vegetables have been gathered by the troops. As the campaign continues vegetables will be more wanted, and I would earnestly ask that an effort be made to furnish a few rations of onions to the troops in the field. Surely they are more needed here than in the Army of the Potomac, where so many have been sent, inasmuch as they have been much longer deprived of them. Those for whom I ask this favor have endured hardships as good soldiers. They have for nearly three months worked and fought day and night, without rest. They have driven back a stubborn enemy over 100 miles, while the ground was contested inch by inch. They have taken seventeen lines of fortifications, and as strong natural positions as any in the world. They have made over 150 miles of fortifications, and the work is not yet done. They are cheerful, in good spirits, strong in faith, both of the justice of their cause and their ability to conquor. They continue to need our help.

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We have other interesting reports from the Western Department, but are obliged to postpone their publication until the succeeding number.

PRISON AT ANDERSONVILLE, GA.

CAMP SUMTER.

The following statement was drawn up for the Commission and sworn to by the parties signing it. They were exchanged on the 16th of August, and with three others were appointed by their companions in prison as a deputation to see President Lincoln in their behalf.

I am a private in 82d N. Y. Regiment of Volunteers, Co. G. Was captured with about 800 Federal troops, in front of Petersburg, on the 22d of June, 1864. We were kept at Petersburg two days, at Richmond, on Belle Isle, three days, then conveyed by rail to Lynchburg. Marched 75 miles to Danville, thence by rail to Andersonville, Ga. At Petersburg we were treated fairly, being under the guard of old soldiers of an Alabama Regiment; at Richmond we came under the authority of the notorious and inhuman Major Turner, and the equally notorious Home Guard. Our ration was a pint of beans, 4 oz. of bread, and 3 oz. of meat a day. Another batch of prisoners joining us, we left Richmond 1,600 strong. All blankets, haversacks, canteens, money, valuables of every kind, extra clothing, and in some cases the last shirt and drawers had been previously taken from us. At Lynchburg we were placed under the Home Guard, officered by Major and Capt. Moffett. The march to Danville was a weary and painful one of five days, under a torrid sun, many of us falling helpless by the way, and soon filling the empty wagons of our train. On the first day we received a little meat, but the *sum* of our rations for the five days was 13 crackers. During the six days by rail to Andersonville, meat was given us twice, and the daily ration was four crackers.

On entering the Stockade Prison, we found it crowded with 28,000 of our fellow soldiers. By *crowded*, I mean that it was difficult to move in any direction without jostling and being jostled. This prison is an open space, sloping on both sides, originally 17 acres, now 25 acres, in the shape of a parallelogram, without trees or shelter of any kind. The soil is sand over a bottom of clay. The fence is made of upright trunks of trees, about 20 feet high, near the top of which are small platforms, where the Guards are stationed. Twenty feet inside and parallel to the fence is a light railing, forming the "dead line," beyond which the projection of a foot or finger is sure to bring the deadly bullet of the sentinel. Through the grounds, at nearly right angles with the longer sides, runs or rather creeps a stream through an artificial channel, varying from five to six feet in width, the water about ankle deep, and near the middle of the enclosure, spreading out into a swamp of about six acres, filled with refuse wood, stumps, and debris of the camp. Before entering this enclosure the stream, or more properly sewer, passes through the camp of the Guards, receiving from this source and others farther up a large amount of the vilest material, even the contents of the sink. The water is of a dark color, and an ordinary glass would collect a thick sediment. This was our only drinking and cooking water. It was our custom to filter it as best we could, through our remnants of haversacks, shirts and blouses. Wells had been dug, but the water either proved so productive of diarrhea, or so limited in quantity, that they were of no general use. The cook house was situated on the stream just outside the stockade, and its refuse of decaying offal was thrown into the water, a greasy coating covering much of the surface. To these was added the daily large amount of base matter from the camp itself. There was a system of policing, but the means were so limited, and so large a number of the men was rendered irresolute and depressed by imprisonment, that the work was very imperfectly done. One side of the swamp was naturally used as a sink, the men usually going out some distance into the water. Under the summer sun this place early became corruption too vile for description, the men breeding disgusting life, so that the surface of the water moved as with a gentle breeze.

The new-comers on reaching this would exclaim, "is this hell;" yet they soon would become callous, and enter unmoved the horrible rottenness. The rebel authorities never removed any filth. There was seldom any visitation by the officers in charge. Two surgeons were at one time sent by President Davis to inspect the camp, but a walk through a small section gave them all the information they desired, and we never saw them again.

The Guards usually numbered about 64; 8 at each end, and 24 on a side. On the outside within 300 yards, were fortifications, on high ground overlooking and perfectly commanding us, mounting 24 12 lb. Napoleon Parrots. We were never permitted to go outside, except at times, in small squads, to gather our fire wood. During the building of the cook-house, a few, who were carpenters, were ordered out to assist.

Our only shelter from the sun and rain and night dews, was what we could make by stretching over us our coats or scraps of blankets, which a few had, but generally there was no attempt by day or night to protect ourselves.

The rations consisted of 8 oz. corn bread, (the cob being ground with the kernel,) and generally sour, 2 oz. of condemned pork, offensive in appearance and smell. Occa-

sionally, about twice a week, two table spoonfuls of rice, and in place of the pork the same amount (2 table spoonfuls) of molasses was given us about twice a month.* This ration was brought into camp at 4 o'clock, P. M., and thrown from the wagons to the ground, the men being arranged in divisions of 270 subdivided into squads of nineties and thirties. It was the custom to consume the whole ration at once, rather than save any for the next day. The distribution being often unequal, some would lose the rations altogether. We were allowed no dish or cooking utensil of any kind. On opening the camp in the winter, the first 2,000 prisoners were allowed skillets, one to 50 men, but these were soon taken away. To the best of my knowledge, information and belief, our ration was in quality a starving one, it being either too foul to be touched or too raw to be digested.

The cook-house went into operation about May 10th, prior to which we cooked our own rations. It did not prove at all adequate to the work, (30,000 is a large town,) so that a large proportion were still obliged to prepare their own food. In addition to the utter inability of many to do this, through debility and sickness, we never had a supply of wood. I have often seen men with a little bag of meal in hand, gathered from several rations, starving to death for want of wood, and in desperation would mix the raw material with water and try to eat it.

The clothing of the men was miserable in the extreme. Very few had shoes of any kind, not 2,000 had coats and pants, and those were the late comers. More than one-half were indecently exposed, and many were naked.

The usual punishment was to place the men in the stocks, outside, near the Captain's quarters. If a man was missing at roll-call, the squad of 90 to which he belonged was deprived of the ration. The "dead line" bullet, already referred to, spared no offender. One poor fellow, just from Sherman's Army, his name was Roberts, was trying to wash his face near the "dead line" railing, when he slipped on the clayey bottom, and fell with his head just outside the fatal border. We shouted to him, but it was too late—"another guard would have a furlough," the men said. It was a common belief among our men, arising from statements made by the guard, that Gen. Winder, in command, issued an order that any one of the guard who should shoot a Yankee outside of the "dead line" should have a month's furlough, but there probably was no truth in this. About two a day were thus shot, some being cases of suicide, brought on by mental depression or physical misery, the poor fellows throwing themselves, or madly rushing outside the "line."

The mental condition of a large portion of the men was melancholy, beginning in despondency and tending to a kind of stolid and idiotic indifference. Many spent much time in arousing and encouraging their fellows, but hundreds were lying about motionless, or stalking vacantly to and fro, quite beyond any help which could be given them within their prison walls. These cases were frequent among those who had been imprisoned but a short time. There were those who were captured at the first Bull Run, July, 1861, and had known Belle Isle from the first, yet had preserved their physical and mental health to a wonderful degree. Many were wise and resolute enough to keep themselves occupied—some in cutting bone and wood ornaments, making their knives out of iron hoops—others in manufacturing ink out of the rust from these same hoops, and with rude pens sketching or imitating bank notes or any sample that would involve long and patient execution.

Letters from home very seldom reached us, and few had any means of writing. In the early summer a large batch of letters, 5,000 we were told, arrived, having been accumulating somewhere for many months. These were brought into camp by an officer, under orders to collect 10 cents on each—of course most were returned, and we heard no more of them. One of my companions saw among them three from his parents, but he was unable to pay the charge. According to the rules of transmission of letters over the lines, these letters must have already paid 10 cents each to the Rebel Government.

As far as we saw Gen. Winder and Capt. Wirtz, the former was kind and considerate in his manners, the latter harsh, though not without kindly feeling.

It is a melancholy and mortifying fact, that some of our trials come from our own men. At Belle Isle and Andersonville there was among us a gang of desperate men, ready to prey on their fellows. Not only thefts and robberies, but even murders were committed. Affairs became so serious at Camp Sumter that an appeal was made to Gen. Winder, who authorized an arrest and trial by a criminal court. Eighty-six were arrested, and six were hung, beside others who were severely punished. These proceedings effected a marked change for the better.

Some few weeks before being released I

* Our regular Army Ration is:
¾ lb. Pork or 1¼ lb. Fresh Beef.
18 oz. Hard Bread, or 20 oz. Soft Bread or Flour.
1-10 lb. Coffee.
1-6 lb. Sugar.
1-10 lb. Rice, or
1-10 lb. Beans or Hominy.
Vegetables—Fresh or Dessicated. Molasses. Vinegar. } Irregularly.

was ordered to act as a clerk in the Hospital. This consists simply of a few scattered trees and fly tents, and is in charge of Dr. White, an excellent and considerate man, with very limited means, but doing all in his power for his patients. He has 25 assistants, besides those detailed to examine for admittance to the Hospital. This examination was made in a small stockade attached to the main one, to the inside door of which the sick came or were brought by their comrades, the number to be removed being limited. Lately, in consideration of the rapidly increasing sickness, it was extended to 150 daily. That this was too small an allowance is shown by the fact that the deaths within our stockade were from 30 to 40 a day. I have seen 150 bodies waiting passage to the "dead house," to be buried with those who died in hospital. The average of deaths through the earlier months was 30 a day; at the time I left the average was over 130, and one day the record showed 146.

The proportion of deaths from *starvation*, not including those consequent on the diseases originating in the character and limited quantity of food, such as diarrhea, dysentery, and scurvy, I cannot state, but to the best of my knowledge, information and belief, there were scores every month. We could at any time point out many for whom such a fate was inevitable, as they lay or feebly walked, mere skeletons, whose emaciation exceeded the examples given in Leslie's *Illustrated*, for June 18, 1864. For example, in some cases the inner edges of the two bones of the arm, between the elbow and wrist, with the intermediate blood vessels, were plainly visible when held toward the light. The ration in quantity was perhaps barely sufficient to sustain life, and the cases of starvation were generally those whose stomachs could not retain what had become entirely indigestible.

For a man to find on waking that his comrade by his side was dead, was an occurrence too common to be noted. I have seen death in almost all the forms of the hospital and battle-field, but the daily scenes in Camp Sumter exceeded in the extremity of misery all my previous experience.

The work of burial is performed by our own men, under guard and orders, twenty-five bodies being placed in a single pit, without head-boards, and the sad duty performed with indecent haste. Sometimes our men were rewarded for this work with a few sticks of fire-wood, and I have known them to quarrel over a dead body for the *job*.

Dr. White is able to give the patients a diet but little better than the prison ration —a little flour porridge, arrow-root, whisky and wild or hog tomatoes. In the way of medicine, I saw nothing but camphor, whisky, and a decoction of some kind of bark, white oak, I think. He often expressed his regret that he had not more medicines. The limitation of military orders under which the surgeon in charge was placed, is shown by the following occurrence: A supposed private, wounded in the thigh, was under treatment in the hospital, when it was discovered that he was a Major of a colored regiment. The Assistant Surgeon, under whose immediate charge he was, proceeded at once not only to remove him, but to kick him out, and he was returned to the stockade to shift for himself as well as he could. Dr. White could not or did not attempt to restore him.

After entering on my duties at the hospital I was occasionally favored with double rations and some wild tomatoes. A few of our men succeeded, in spite of the closest examination of our clothes, in secreting some greenbacks, and with these were able to buy useful articles at exorbitant prices, a tea cup of flour at $1.00; eggs $3 to $6 a dozen; salt $4 a pound; molasses $30 a gallon; nigger beans, a small inferior article, (diet of the slaves and pigs, but highly relished by us,) 50 cents a pint. These figures, multiplied by ten, will give very nearly the prices in Confederate currency. Though the country abounded in pine and oak, sticks were sold to us at various prices, according to size.

Our men, especially the mechanics, were tempted with the offer of liberty and large wages, to take the oath of allegiance to the Confederacy, but it was very rare that their patriotism, even under such a fiery trial, ever gave way. I carry this message from one of my companions to his mother: "My treatment here is killing me, Mother, but I die cheerfully for my country."

Some attempts were made to escape, but wholly in vain, for if the prison walls and guards were passed and the protecting woods reached, the blood hounds were sure to find us out.

Tunnelling was once attempted on a large scale, but on the afternoon preceding the night fixed on for escape, an officer rode in and announced to us that the plot was discovered, and from our huge pen we could see on the hill above us the regiments just arriving to strengthen the guard. We had been betrayed. It was our belief that spies were kept in the camp, which could very easily be done.

The number in camp when I left was nearly 35,000, and daily increasing. The number in Hospital was about 5,000. I was exchanged at Port Royal Ferry August 16th.

PRESCOTT TRACY,
82d Reg't N. Y. Vol.

City and County of New York, ss: H. C.

Higginson and S. Noirot being duly sworn, say: That the above statement of Prescott Tracy, their fellow prisoner, agrees with their own knowledge and experience.

H. C. Higginson,
Co. K, 19th Illinois Vol.

Silvester Noirot,
Co. B, 5th N. J. Vol.

HOMES AND LODGES.

CAIRO.

During the month of July, 1864, the number admitted was 6,923, from 23 different States; of meals furnished, 15,284; of lodgings, 4,374; aided in procuring transportation, 1,722.

NASHVILLE.

Mr. Brayton makes the following report of the business of the Soldier's Home from November 1, 1863, to July 31, 1864:

No. of Discharged Soldiers admitted	1,286
No. of Furloughed Soldiers and traveling under orders admitted	30,661
Total, from 29 States	31,947
No. of Meals furnished	102,942
" Lodgings furnished	34,461
" Deaths	10
" for whom Transportation has been procured	25,638
" for whom Back Pay has been drawn	789
Amount of Money drawn and paid over	$120,005 38

Of the number entertained 5,731 were sick, and 2,592 were wounded. There were many more going home on sick furlough, who needing no particular attention, were not numbered with the sick. Chronic diarrhea has been the prevailing complaint. As soon as practicable after the arrival of the sick, they are assigned to beds and carefully attended to. The wounded have their wounds dressed, and if they desire it, have beds furnished them. Such as are able eat at the public table; all others take their meals in their rooms.

All soldiers on arrival report to the clerk, who examines their authority for traveling, registers their names, and procures them transportation on their papers, ready for the next train, unless there is good reason for stopping longer. The sick and wounded are carried from the Home to the cars, in ambulances furnished by the Government. When a soldier is too sick, or his wound is in a condition that renders it unsafe for him to continue his journey, he is taken care of for a few days at the Home, or sent to the hospital, as the case may require.

The deaths that have occurred here, in nearly all cases, have been of men who were too weak to be removed after arrival.

We have only 13 rooms, containing 80 beds, for the accommodation of travelers, and we are sometimes required to entertain 300 men, two hundred and twenty of whom occupy the floors and piazzas, and sleep on blankets. Most soldiers prefer blankets to beds, and the soundness of their slumbers gives evidence of their comfort. Of course we cannot entertain regiments in our narrow limits; we therefore confine ourselves to furloughed and discharged men, and such as are traveling under orders in small squads.

The business of collecting back pay for discharged soldiers has increased of late. I am sorry to say that about one in four of the discharge papers that come from the front are incorrect. This adds greatly to our labor, and subjects the soldiers to the hardship of returning to their commands to have them corrected, often a distance of several hundred miles.

When the soldier is wounded, or too unwell to return, we send a messenger, if practicable. One has just returned with papers on which nothing could be collected when presented; but being corrected, we have drawn for him $181.21, and sent the sick man on his way to Louisville rejoicing, by the hospital train. Not long since we persuaded an old crippled soldier to go back to his regiment twice with his papers. The first time he reported that his Colonel abused him, and sent him back to Nashville without correcting his papers. The second time we wrote the Colonel a kind explanatory letter, and the papers were returned corrected, and back pay was drawn amounting to $220.00, which raised the soldier's spirits from a point near despair to the full fever heat of joy. On one occasion eighteen out of twenty papers were sent back in one day.

Very large numbers of furloughed wounded soldiers are passing daily from the Hospitals in front to their homes in the North, two-thirds of whom are destitute of the most essential articles of clothing. No provision is made to supply their wants, because they have not their descriptive lists. Many have neither hats, pants, coats, socks, or shoes. Cotton shirts and drawers furnished by the Sanitary Commission are all their covering. To such we have given during the last month, seven hundred and one shirts and drawers, sixty pairs of pants, and fifty pairs of shoes. We could have issued twice that number, but our stock has been reduced by the unusually heavy draft from the front.

If the Governors of the States could witness the condition of their furloughed wounded soldiers as they arrive at the Home, with their shirts and drawers saturated with sweat and dust, and rendered offensive with the discharge from their wounds, I am sure their influence would procure an order for a supply of clothing, at least necessary to cover them, and the young men of the North who are now being solicited to fill their places around Atlanta, would be spared the mortification of seeing their brothers and friends hobbling home on crutches, and being carried on litters indecently clothed. The brave fellows do not ask to have clothes given them. The Government owes them, and though they have lost their garments in battle, or had them cut from them by surgeons who dressed their wounds in the field, they are ready to pay for them.

Justice alone requires that a Quartermaster should be appointed for Nashville, who shall be required to keep open office from morning till night, and issue clothing to furloughed sick and wounded soldiers. No loss can accrue to Government by so doing, as the clothes could be charged on their furloughs, and their Captains

could be notified (as in case of having descriptive lists,) of the amount furnished. Nothing short of this will do justice to the suffering wounded, or the people who send and pay them.

LOUISVILLE.

During the month of July, 1864, 15,929 meals and 8,427 lodgings were furnished.

NEW ALBANY, (IND.)

During the month of July, 1864, the number entertained was 962; of meals furnished, 2,372; of lodgings, 762.

CAMP NELSON, (KY.)

During the month of July, 1864, the number of meals furnished was 37,179, and 13,470 lodgings.

MEMPHIS.

During the four weeks ending July 30th, 1864, the number admitted was 1,392, from 16 different States; of meals furnished, 4,176; of lodgings, 913; and furnished with transportation, 52.

DETROIT.

During the month of June, 1864, the number admitted was 682; of meals furnished, 7,414; of lodgings, 2,054.

HARRISBURG.

Extract from a letter of J. Jewitt Parks, dated Soldier's Rest, Harrisburg, Pa., Aug. 17, 1864:

* * * * *

We have our Soldier's Rest now fully under way. Opened it on last Saturday, and since that date, a space of four and a half days, we have lodged and otherwise given aid and comfort to thirty-one soldiers passing through this city. The most of our guests come on the 8 P. M. train from Baltimore, and leave on the 2.30 A. M. passing West, so that much of the night is taken up in attention to them. We try to dress their wounds as far as possible, give them something to eat, and send them on their way feeling more comfortable. We do not have a great many during the daytime, but there is always a press of business on hand. Some are without transportation; others come in to have wounds dressed, &c. The city doctors have volunteered their services, and are glad to come in. There are three ladies who are greatly interested in the welfare of the soldiers, and come down to do all they can for us.

* * * * *

Have visited all Hospitals in the vicinity, some of them several times, and they are now well supplied. There has been a convalescent camp opened across the Susquehanna, which I shall visit shortly.

* * * * *

WISCONSIN SOLDIER'S AID SOCIETY.

The half-yearly report of the Wisconsin Soldier's Aid Society, of July 1st, shows that it has been no languid auxiliary of the Commission. Its gifts to the Army through the Northwestern Branch of the Commission exceed $50,000 a year.

Dr. Wolcott, Surgeon-General of Wisconsin, writes to the Society the result of several month's observation of the working of the Commission at the front with Gen. Sherman's Army:

Believing that doubt still exists in the minds of some of our people, not only as to the utility and necessity of the Sanitary Commission, but especially as to whether the means so liberally contributed, reach their proper destination. Having witnessed the workings of the Commission through most of its ramifications, and on a scale sufficiently extensive to speak with confidence, I avail myself of this favorable opportunity to say, that in my opinion no department of the service is managed in a more thoroughly business-like manner, or more perfectly meets the designs and objects of its organization.

If in this I am correct, it needs no argument to prove both its utility and necessity. If it be desirable to aid and comfort men who have laid us under obligations so deep, that our utmost efforts can never cancel them, how, I would ask, can we better begin than by furnishing for their use, such articles as contribute to both comfort and recovery, when confined by wounds and sickness in Hospitals, far from friends and home. It is through this channel alone, that donations can be successfully conveyed to their proper destination.

I trust therefore, that all who have heretofore given, will feel under renewed obligations to continue to give, and those whose doubts on this question have caused them to withhold donations heretofore, will endeavor by greater zeal hereafter, to atone for past neglect of duty.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS.

CAMP BARRY, *Aug.* 20, 1864.

To the Sanitary Commission:

Having re-enlisted from Massachusetts, in Battery L, 3d U. S. Artillery, and appreciating as I do the benefits you have conferred upon the soldiers since this war commenced, allow me, a private soldier, in acknowledgment, to contribute my humble mite to your good work.

Truly yours,

REUBEN LIBBY.

2D DIVISION, 2D CORPS,
Aug. 6th, 1864.

I take great pleasure in testifying my high appreciation of the services of the Sanitary Commission during the present summer.

The supplies furnished not only the sick and wounded as heretofore, but the well soldiers, also, were most opportune; and the liberal issues of vegetables, &c., made by the Sanitary Commission to the whole army, I have every reason to believe aided materially in preserving the health of the men.

Wishing you continued success in your inestimable labors,

I am very truly yours,

JOHN GIBBON,
Major Gen'l Vols., comd'g Div.

To Mr. J. WARNER JOHNSON,
Sup. San. Com., Phila.

A TRIP UP THE MISSISSIPPI.

The manner in which enfeebled men, weak from wounds and diseases, received and contracted in the service, after being discharged or furloughed, have been furnished transportation from the Department of the Gulf to their homes in the North and Northwest, have often claimed the attention of the Commission.

Prior to this spring we have only been able to contemplate the evil, foreseeing no power to remedy it. Of course a discharged soldier has not the same claim on the Government for protection as when he was in the service; but if justice was meted out to him before his discharge in the true letter and spirit of the regulations, he could, with the money received for mileage and subsistence, be able to obtain a comfortable passage to his home. Even then it is not difficult to conceive that men may become so enfeebled by disease or disabled by wounds, as to be unable to care for themselves, and to require medicines and careful nursing. Here would be a legitimate field of labor for charitable and benevolent institutions, supplying an original vacancy, and by extending a protecting arm, render efficient service to our country's braves. Under existing circumstances we must work in unison with officers of the Government, and with all the means we have help to do justice to the soldier.

At this point I wish again to impress you with the magnitude of the good that has been accomplished through our agency in this Department, for the benefit of the soldier in this one particular.

The difference between receiving money for subsistence and mileage for the whole distance to a Northern home, and for only a portion of the distance, with an order on the quartermaster for transportation for the balance, is better appreciated by the soldier than by any one else; it is simply the difference between the value of subsistence and mileage for over two thousand miles and over two hundred miles.

The practice prevailed in this Department up to the past spring, of paying the soldier mileage and subsistence only from New York and Cairo to their homes, instead of from New Orleans or the place of their discharge, and in lieu of that an order was given on the quartermaster for transportation. That settled his account with the Government, and whether maimed, halt or blind, he must find the quartermaster, and if fortunate enough to find him in good humor, ascertain, if possible, when transportation can be afforded him. He may be obliged to wait a week, perhaps longer. In the meantime what is to become of him? he is not allowed in camp, and is shut out of the hospital. He is discharged, and has no claim on any official save the quartermaster for his transportation ticket. Subject to the temptations and vices incident to a large city, he may squander his money and contract habits to be followed by a lifetime of woe.

Our Soldiers' Home is the only institution that can afford him a refuge, and probably all would not avail themselves of its privileges.

The manner in which our sick and wounded, furloughed and discharged soldiers are shipped home, is too revolting to contemplate. A safe shipment of high-blooded stallions, cotton, sugar and other products of the tropics, seemed to receive more attention than any circumstances that could conduce to the comfort of, and do justice to the soldier.

The remedy to this evil was accomplished by bringing the facts to the notice of the Chief Paymaster, who issued an order that all Paymasters should pay to the soldier subsistence and mileage at current rates for the whole distance between New Orleans and the place of muster.

About the last of January, through the influence of Dr. Stipp, Medical Inspector of the Department, the Quartermaster assigned to the Medical Department the steamer Laurel Hill. Under the direction of the Commission she was fitted up completely for a hospital boat, and made one trip to Cairo successfully. Our Agent, Mr. Furness, and a colored cook accompanied this trip. In addition to that, I will say that two Surgeons were detailed by the Medical Director to have special charge of the sick, and general charge of the boat. They received their orders from the Medical Director. At the sametime orders were issued by the Quartermaster to the captain of the boat to turn his boat over to the

Quartermaster at Cairo, to be loaded by him, without any reference to the wishes of the Medical Department. Accordingly, between four and five hundred recruits were ordered aboard on her return trip. The tables that had been erected were destroyed, and some damage and loss accrued to our stores.

It was confidently expected by the Medical Departmentl that the Laurel Hill on her return to New Orleans would immediately make another trip, as about two hundred discharged and furloughed soldiers were awaiting transportation. But by the order of the Chief Quartermaster the bunks were removed as a military necessity, and the steamer detained for transportation of troops within the Department.

About the first of March, through the influence of Maj.-Gen. Reynolds, and Dr. Stipp, the Medical Department obtained from the Quartermaster's Department another steamer, the N. W. Thomas, to be fitted up and used as a hospital boat, and the assistance of the Commission was again solicited.

Our experience with the Laurel Hill was sufficient to convince me that a copartnership between the Quartermaster and Medical Departments was not desirable, and ought not to exist, except under the control of the latter.

There could be no objection to the transportation of freight and a limited number of passengers, but an indiscriminate use of the boat for anything and everything, anybody and everybody, was absurd, and I declined taking any part in the matter, unless some arrangement could be made more favorable to the Medical Department.

Being assured that the boat should be under my control, carpenters were at once employed, and under the direction of Mr. Furness, two rows of bunks were constructed in the centre of the cabin, three berths high, to accommodate one hundred and twenty men. With these, and the unoccupied staterooms, one hundred and fifty could be comfortably provided with beds. A temporary storeroom was built on the port-guard, and a kitchen, provided with a range, was constructed on the lower deck. Tables were arranged on the boiler-deck in front of the cabin, to accommodate eighty men. The more feeble were fed in the back cabin and in their berths, according to circumstances. Two Surgeons were detailed to have special charge of the sick; and I received an order, (which I append,) from Dr. Stipp, to take full charge of the steamer except as to its running.

The captain of the boat received orders from the Quartermaster to report to the Quartermasters at Vicksburg and Memphis for fuel, and at Cairo for fuel and freight, "not to interfere with the sanitary purposes of the boat."

Two thousand rations were drawn from the Commissary, including one thousand rations of fresh beef. The beds and bedding, everything that pertains to a hospital ward, kitchen and table furniture, assorted vegetables, delicacies and stimulants, were all provided from our storeroom—(a list of which I append,)—the gifts of loyal hearts, and work of loyal sinew in the Northeast and Northwest—another instance of the universatility of the Commission, recognizing no sectional differences, succoring alike the soldier from Maine and Iowa, and every intervening locality.

With our flag flying at the fore, at five o'clock, P.M., March 12th, we moved from our moorings, and steamed up the river. It was fitting that our flag, the symbol of this great charity of the American people, should wave over us. Supported and sustained by generous hearts and the earnest prayers of millions, it was a guaranty of safe transit in a long journey through a section infested by guerrillas.

The knapsacks and baggage belonging to the men were checked, and stored away for protection. I persuaded the men not to carry much money on their persons, offering to take it and give a receipt of safekeeping. Between five and six thousand dollars was intrusted to my care, and delivered again to the owners on their arrival at Cairo. The sickest men were arranged in the staterooms, and especially provided for by careful nurses, who bestowed every attention. The services of Miss Trotter, of Bloomington, Illinois, were secured, who rendered efficient service towards the most feeble.

At Baton Rouge we landed the next day

and received aboard a few furloughed men. Here, the boiler of our boat was discovered to be leaking, and we were obliged to "tie up" for repairs, and wait for assistance to come to us from New Orleans. This delay was discouraging and disheartening to the men, and the occasion of some uneasiness. The furloughs of those who were looking forward to a respite at home, were expiring in a place and condition unenviable. The delay, too, served to depress the spirits of those more feeble, who only hoped to reach home to die in the midst of their families. At this place, two, who had clung to the elastic thread of a hope of once more meeting their friends at home, died, and were interred in the Soldiers' Burying Ground.

After four days' delay we again proceeded up stream, and landing next at Port Hudson, we received aboard all the discharged and furloughed soldiers at this post. On route to Vicksburg another soldier, from the interior of Indiana, died, and was buried there.

The personal effects of all those who died were intrusted to my care, and forwarded by me on arrival at Cairo, per Adams' Express, to their friends, as generally directed by them before death.

At Vicksburg and Memphis, I was able to obtain some stores from our own storeroom, but was obliged to purchase others to eke out the long journey still before us.

After leaving Memphis, nothing of interest or regret occurred to vary the monotony of a long trip up the river.

Among the men a spirit of contentment and thankfulness was exhibited that was refreshing to witness, and many benedictions were pronounced on the ever-provident U. S. Sanitary Commission.

My arrival at Cairo at this time was opportune, as I met Dr. Warriner in charge of steamer Dunleith, loaded with stores, en route for all the posts on the river, including New Orleans. Instructions having been given to the Quartermaster not to interfere with the sanitary purposes of the boat, I was enabled to take what stores were destined for New Orleans, aboard the Thomas, thus making the trip of the Dunleith below Vicksburg unnecessary, and less expensive to the Commission. I received from Dr. Warriner, at this time, about one thousand barrels of pickles and vegetables, thirteen barrels of ale, and other stores needed in the Department of the Gulf.—*Dr. Blake's Report.*

DIARY OF MRS. E. C. PORTER,

AGENT OF THE SANITARY COMMISSION IN THE ARMY OF THE CUMBERLAND.

Mrs. Porter accompanies Mrs. Bickerdyke in her arduous labors at the front, among the wounded, where both have labored indefatigably these last two months. To give some idea of the kind of service they render our wounded men, their method of work, and how indispensable are sanitary stores in times of battle, we publish Mrs. Porter's diary, written during the month of May. Its interest will be sufficient excuse for the publication of so interesting a document.

NEAR THE BATTLE GROUND, SUGAR CREEK, GA.
GEN. LOGAN'S HEADQUARTERS, *May* 15, 1864.

I have just reached this place, where I hear the constant roar which tells of battle and of death. The battle has just commenced, and several wounded have been brought in who are to be sent north. Our batteries are engaged. The poor privates who are wounded cannot leave at once.

Mrs. Bickerdyke left on the 10th for Chattanooga. I followed on Wednesday, in company with Rev. Drs. Budington and Thompson, N. Y. agents of the Christian Commission, sent here on a tour of observation. We reached Chattanooga yesterday morning. I found Mrs. Bickerdyke had gone on to Ringgold, and so I took the noon train and came down to Ringgold, where I found Mrs. Bickerdyke in the Sanitary rooms, preparing supplies to take forward in teams that were going out in the morning. We slept in a soldier's tent that night and were in readiness to start in the morning. Mrs. Bickerdyke had sent forword the evening before such sanitary stores as could be taken in the teams.

I wish I could give you a description of our mule train—a long solemn train of mule teams! most of them looking as if dragging heavily, and many making a mighty effort to take their last load to the scene of strife. Can you imagine such a train? reaching all the way from Ringgold to Sugar Creek, a distance of twenty-five miles? Such a train has almost literally filled the way with sup-

plies to our army to-day. The supplies are to go by railroad soon, and the mules which are falling on the right hand and on the left, from over-work, poor fare and exhaustion, will be relieved.

We reached Sugar Creek about six o'clock, and were most kindly received at Gen. Logan's headquarters—where I am now writing—by Gen. Smith and others of his staff. They informed us that Gen. Logan had been on the battle-field since last evening. The enemy's guns are loud and rapid now, and although I do not think we can go to the battle-field to-night, it will be difficult to stay away from it while this roar of artillery continues, knowing that many poor fellows are needing our care and attention.

Col. Smith has assured Mrs. Bickerdyke that the ambulance or anything else which he can furnish, shall be supplied to aid her in her work. Mrs. Bickerdyke was very desirous of going to the hospital in the field immediately to night, but it was not best. It is five miles distant, and she needs rest.

MONDAY, *May* 17.

Never have I passed such a Sabbath as yesterday, and I wish I could believe there never would be such another. We rose very early, after hearing the artillery all night as the fight went on, terrible in its echo, and terrible not only to our enemies, but to many of our noble brothers, who have suddenly fallen, or are left mutilated to languish in an extempore hospital at the front.

Gen. Logan's headquarters, where we passed the night, are about four miles from the battle-field. The wounded were brought into hospitals, quickly and roughly prepared in the forest, as near the field as safety would permit. Upon arriving at the place for the First Division Hospital, we were met by the familiar face of Dr. Woodworth, of Chicago, whom we knew would do all in his power to relieve the suffering. What a scene was presented! Precious sons of northern mothers, beloved husbands of northern wives were already here to undergo amputation, to have wounds probed and dressed, or broken limbs set and bandaged. Some were writhing under the surgeon's knife, but bore their suffering bravely and uncomplainingly. There were many whose wounds were considered slight, such as a shot through the hand, arm, or leg, which but for the contrast with severer cases, would seem dreadful. Never was the presence of women more joyfully welcomed. It was touching to see those precious boys looking up into our faces with such hope and gladness. It brought to their minds mother and home, as each testified while his wounds were being dressed; "This seems a little like having mother about," was the reiterated expression of the wounded, as one after another was washed and had his wounds dressed. Mrs. Bickerdyke and myself assisted in the operation. Poor boys! how my heart ached that I could do so little.

After doing what we could in Hospital No. 1, to render the condition of the poor fellows tolerable, we proceeded to No. 2, and did what we could there, distributing our sanitary comforts in the most economical manner, so as to make them go as far as possible. We found that what we brought in the ambulance was giving untold comfort to our poor exhausted wounded men, whose rough hospital couches were made by pine boughs with the stems cut out, spread upon the ground, over which their blankets were thrown. This forms the bed, and the poor fellows' blouses, saturated with their own blood, is their only pillow, their knapsacks being left behind when they went into battle. More sanitary goods are on the way, and will be brought to relieve the men as soon as possible.

Now all the supplies of this immense army are brought from Ringgold by teams, and food for the army must be forwarded first. I have seen no bread for several days but army hard tack. The dear boys think it good, and so it is to the hungry men, and when cooked in soups and panada.

We found in the Third and Fourth Hospitals much the same condition of things; all doing what they could to perfect the hospital arrangements, and extemporizing kitchen tents and beds by the hundred, all made as I have described.

The young surgeons are most of them doing themselves great credit by their attention to the suffering. I have seen as

yet but few except young men in the hospitals. There are some venerable workers, who should have the grateful thanks of the nation for their devotion to the suffering.

This evening we were cheered by the arrival of the sanitary goods, which were loaded at Ringgold, under Mrs. Bickerdyke's direction. They are the only sanitary goods here, except the delicacies brought by us in the ambulance, which were sent us direct from Chicago. From them every wounded man had not only a cooling draught of lemonade, but many other comforts which seemed to be just what was needed, and which have called forth repeated blessings upon the Sanitary Commision.

Last night there was sharp fighting again, if the constant roar of heavy artillery tells truly. Our tent was spread near the wounded and the dying, and was filled with barrels of lemons, pickles and various other articles of comfort. Our bed was composed of dry leaves, spread with a rubber and soldier's blanket—our own blankets, with pillows and all, having been given out to sufferers long before night. Our tent is located about two miles from the seat of action, and every discharge is distinctly heard. This morning report says the enemy are going toward Atlanta.

Several wounded men have died during the night. Mrs. Bickerdyke and myself are going out to look after another division of wounded men. Mr Tone, of the Sanitary Commission, has just arrived, to make some arrangements for getting forward the supplies which are now so much needed, and will be demanded yet more in a day or two.

Thursday *May* 19th.

I wrote the above two days since, and have had no more time to write until now. But since then I have passed through thrilling scenes, and have witnessed many deaths, which have left fond wives in widowhood and made many children fatherless, who had looked forward to July with fond hopes. "Then father's time in the army will be out, and we will be so glad!"

Yesterday there was a Sanitary agent here, Mr. Tone, and we received from him a few articles, such as crackers, canned milk, bandages, and a few bottles of raspberry vinegar, all so very acceptable to our suffering patients, four of whom have passed beyond our care, and already lie in the newly opened burying place. Yesterday, Mr. Smith, of the Christian Commission at Nashville, was here, and Mr. Lawrence, from Chattanooga. With his usual carefulness for the comfort of others, he left with us his rubber and woolen blankets, which, as we had put our last piece of bedding under the wounded men, were gratefully received. He has gone for more supplies. When he returns, we hope the wants of our boys will be met.

You cannot imagine the condition of our wounded men who have had no change of clothing. Think of a wounded man lying in his shirt saturated with blood, and wearing it until it becomes dry and hard, his blanket in the same condition, and he lying on the ground without pillow, except his knapsack. We brought several pillows, and when I put one of them under the head of a great sufferer, he said, "Oh, that is so soft!" As I passed along, yesterday, one of the boys looked up imploringly, and said, "Oh, my bed is hard!" I had just taken a pillow fom the bed of a man just dead, and laid it out to dry. I asked, "shall I bring that?" "Yes," he said, and when I brought it, stained with his comrade's blood, and laid his weary aching head upon it, he replied, "Oh, that is such a relief!" We know there are sanitary stores in abundance, and that they are on the way, and we also realize the difficulty of getting anything to us, in our remote locality, so far from the railroad, where every thing must be brought by teams. We are hourly expecting sanitary goods, which will furnish the boys with comforts that mothers, wives and sisters have prepared.

Mrs. Bickerdyke has succeeded in bringing about a little more order to-day in feeding these three hundred men. The painful work has commenced of removing these men to Resaca, about three miles from the place where they were first received. This arrangement is deemed best, as it brings them at once upon the railroad, where they can be sent North at some time, and I am told that most are to be sent North as soon as practicable. No one who has not seen the immediate effects of a battle can have

any idea of its horrors. I am daily grateful to God for having raised up and strengthened for the work of comforting the wounded "Mother Bickerdyke," as the soldiers truly call her. She has followed them with a mother's self-sacrificing devotion, and the high patriotism and benevolence which exist in her nature. She never fails in the time of the soldier's necessity, no matter what that necessity may be. Like a true mother she is ready for it. She is ready to *contend* for his rights, as many in authority have been made to feel, and she is sustained in labors which seem supernatural. I hope mothers, wives and sisters will appreciate her services, and give to *her* dear fatherless boys aid when needed, as she has rendered it to theirs.

To day every kettle which could be raised has been used in making coffee. Mrs. Bickerdyke has made barrel after barrel, and it is a comfort to know that multitudes are reached, and cheered, and saved. Two hundred and sixty slightly wounded men just came to this point, on the cars on their way North, all hungry and weary, saying, "We are so thirsty," "Do give us something to eat." Mrs. Bickerdyke was engaged in giving out supper to the three hundred in wards here, and told them she could not feed them then. They turned away in sorrow and were leaving, when learning who they were—wounded men of the 20th Army Corps—and their necessity, she told them to wait a few moments, she would attend to them. She gave them coffee, kraut, and potato pickles, which are never eaten but by famished men, and for once they were a luxury. I stood in the room where our supplies were deposited, giving to some crackers, to some pickles, and to each hungry man something.

One of the green cards that come on all the stores of the Northwestern Commission Mrs. Bickerdyke had tacked upon the wall, and this told the inquirers from what branch of the Commission the supplies were obtained. The men were mostly from New York, Pennsylvania and New Jersey, and most grateful recipients were they of the generosity of the Northwest.

You can imagine the effort made to supply two barrels of coffee, with only three camp kettles, two iron boilers, holding two pailfuls, one small iron teakettle, and one saucepan to make it in. These, all placed over a dry rail fire, were boiled in double quick time, and were filled and refilled till all had a portion. Chicago canned milk never gave more comfort than on this occasion, I assure you. Our cooking conveniences are much the same as at Missionary Ridge, but there is to be a change soon. The Medical Director informs me that this is to be a recovering hospital, and cooking apparatus will soon be provided.

FIELD HOSPITAL, RESACA, GA., *May 20th.*

All convalescents are this morning ordered from this hospital. Mrs. B. and myself feel that we must leave these, now comparatively provided for, and hasten to the front, to those who are in the condition in which we found these. Many of the wounded are doing well. All who will recover are improving. Yesterday we received from government tents, cots and other comforts for the relief of our wounded, who have been lying on the ground, though bunks have been prepared for many.

Mrs. Bickerdyke is moving among the wounded, and is doing good as she has opportunity. Last night as I slept in my tent, surrounded by the wounded, I was awakened by dreadful cries and groans, as if of one in distress. It continued, seeming like the death agonies of a strong man. My first impulse was to go to him, but that I could not do. At length the groans ceased, and when I inquired of our surgeon, from whose tent they proceeded, he said it was a wounded rebel prisoner, who died in the night. The rebel wounded bear their sufferings less bravely than our men.

KINGSTON, GEORGIA, *May 23d.*

Yesterday morning we arrived at Kingston, sleeping in cars, and accompanied by officers, and a minister sent by the Christian Commission. The cars were filled with sacks of corn upon which we rested. We reached here and took breakfast with agents of the Sanitary and Christian Commissions. There is great hurrying to and fro, for an order has been issued for a forward move to-morrow, and all are making preparations. Rations for twenty days are ordered. Mrs. Bickerdyke took an ambulance and rode out to Gen. McPherson's

head-quarters, to learn from him what we should plan to do. The General encouraged our going forward, by assuring us that transportation should be furnished for our sanitary goods. On the matter of transportation, Col. Smith, or rather the Quarter-Master of the corps, informed us that the best ambulance and driver should be at our command, if we would go forward, and that our services were appreciated so highly, that everything should be done to facilitate and aid us in our work. From other officers we received the same assurance. We took out a few comforts to the batteries, and found them in remarkable health and spirits, considering the struggle through which they had passed.

May 23d.

Sanitary agents have issued several tons of vegetables and other sanitary goods, to-day, to the different divisions of this great army. Mrs. Bickerdyke has received this morning a large supply for our use among the wounded, which are to be sent forward to be in readiness for the next contest, which is no doubt near at hand. The Indiana agent sent us supplies at Resaca which we have reserved for the coming want. Mrs. Bickerdyke was greeted on the street by a soldier on horseback: "Mother," said he, "is that you? Don't you remember me? I was in the Hospital, my arm amputated, and I was saved by your kindness. I am so glad to see you," giving her a beautiful bouquet of roses, the only token of grateful remembrance he could command. Mrs. B. daily receives such greetings from men, who say they have been saved from death by her efforts. The blessing of many ready to perish is no small reward, and it is hers in overflowing measure.

May 24th.

Last evening two or three hundred exhausted men were sent here faint and weary. Mrs. B. and myself tried with what means we had, to meet their necessities. Mrs. B. made them coffee, and we gave them pickles and other food, which refreshed them greatly. They felt that if they could rest and have enough to eat, such as they needed, they would soon be able to do duty. This morning the surgeon of a hospital called to ask that we would go and help him in his work, which we promised to do.

About an hour ago a great excitement prevailed, as it was said the rebels were coming upon us with a dash. Such a stampede among the stragglers, and so many pale faces I have not before seen. We were having our boxes shipped for Resaca. Hastened by the fright most of them were shipped, but four or five valuable packages remain, and we design to get them off as soon as possible, as it is thought guerrillas will make another attempt here.

FIELD HOSPITAL UNDER CARE OF DR. WRIGHT,
May 25th.

Yesterday, as the trains were passing about four miles from here, they were attacked by our enemies. Four soldiers who had dismounted were killed, first slightly wounded, then evidently knocked on the head with a gun or club. That was the surgeon's testimony, and the most inexperienced observer would come to the same conclusion, who looked upon their bruised, broken faces. What exhibitions do we daily receive of the chivalry of our high-minded southern foes? Could Satan himself give stronger proofs of his love of evil than these devoted servants of their master?

Last evening, having seen most of our sanitary goods on the cars, I left the town, which it was thought might be filled with rebels to-day, and came to this field hospital. Mrs. Bickerdyke had taken a few articles and gone up in the morning, with men and women to clean and put things in order to feed and comfort the sad, exhausted and wounded soldiers. I found the house filled with such already. The beautiful, but filthy premises, under her direction had been made comfortably clean, and now the floors were covered with soldiers, resting their weary heads on knapsacks or blouses, many of them without blankets even. On the march they have thrown everything away, because they are so burdened. They often start with very heavy burdens, unwilling to give up any of the little comforts they have gathered about them, but as the heat increases and the soldiers become weary, one thing after another is thrown away, until only their knapsacks which contain their rations, and their cups remain.

The failing and faint-hearted are constantly coming in. They report themselves sick, and a few days of rest and nourishing food will restore most of them, but some have made their last march, and will soon be laid in a soldier's grave! Mrs. B. has sent gruel and other food, which I have been distributing according to the wants of the prostrate multitude, all on the *floor*. Some are very sick men! It is a pleasure to do something for them. They are all dear to some circle, and are a noble company. Two hundred are gathered here. Sanitary goods are our dependence in taking care of them. We have received liberally from the Western Commission, and some very valuable articles from the Christian Commission, and have made them tell upon the comfort of those ready to perish. How often do I hear the remark, "What should we have done but for the Sanitary Commission?" We suffer the greatest inconvenience from the want of cooking utensils. It is very hard work to provide food for so many hundreds, without any other convenience than an out-door fire, under the heat of a summer sun. A tent does not exclude this heat. Soup kettles and large ranges would diminish the labor, and add greatly to our ability to be useful. Mrs. Bickerdyke applied to Louisville for such aid, knowing by experience the hard service which must be required, but they have not come, probably on account of difficulty in the way of transportation, and she will toil on without them until her strong constitution is undermined, I fear.

Wednesday.

Heavy firing was heard in front yesterday. To-day three hundred and twelve men have been fed and comforted here. This morning Mrs. Bickerdyke made mush for two hundred, having gathered up in various places kettles, so that by great effort out of doors she can cook something. Potatoes, received from Iowa, and dried fruit and canned, have been distributed among the men. Many of them are from Iowa. "What could we do without these stores?" is the constant inquiry.

May 26.

I have visited the deserted hospitals near us, erected after Chattanooga was shelled by our troops, as I was informed by a lady who lives near. They are of sufficient size to accommodate 1,000 sick and wounded men, are built according to the directions of their Medical Board, and are altogether the best arrangements for a temporary hospital which I have seen, nothing wanting for convenience or comfort, and the location one of the best that could have been chosen. The rebels know how to take care of themselves. They were hurried out of the hospital last week, and as they evacuated took their sick with them. The place we occupy is by no means as convenient, this being a private residence merely. But the plan is to send our men North, if they cannot go forward. Hundreds have already gone, and multitudes are on the way. A company of poor white women came to see us this morning, who said, "Georgia never went out of the Union of her own free will, but she could not help herself." They say, "our children are to be bound out to the planters, and we put into the hospitals to do the work, and thus be separated from our children; we know they'll do it if they can. The ladies say that they will have our children for servants if they can't get the niggers, and they will."

May 27th.

Andrew Somerville, a faithful soldier, who went down to Reseca with our sanitary goods, after having put them into Mr. Jones (the agent's) hands, was overpowered by a band of drunken soldiers, who were on a wild robbing expedition. They took some things after having knocked him down. A guard was called and military power exerted to arrest them. A telegram from Rome asking for sanitary goods. I shall go to Resaca for them as the wounded are suffering.

May 28th.

There is heavy firing in the direction of Rome. I concluded to telegraph to Resaca and wait until to-day. Everything indicates the necessity of comforts for the wounded. There is a sharp contest going on to protect a gap in the mountains.

May 29th.

Last evening, in view of the wants of the wounded, who were reported coming in to be sent forward, I went to Resaca to get supplies, and returned this morning.

To-day we hear of dreadful slaughter and suffering, and we are told that a train of ambulances is on its way to this point with the wounded. The Colonel of the 83d Ohio Regiment ran into our room to ask for supplies to go out to his regiment; Dr. Everett of the 10th Iowa also. We shall give them all we can spare. But, if our supplies were increased four-fold, we could easily use them.

—

In another letter, dated Kingston, Geo., June 1st, Mrs. Porter says: "We have received, fed, and comforted at this hospital, during the past week, between 4,000 and 5,000 wounded men, and still they come. Our sanitary stores are just what we need, and to-day we have received a quantity from Resaca, and a telegram from Mr. Read, United States Sanitary Agent at Chattanooga, requesting us to draw upon that depot for anything we need, which we shall be glad to do. All the food and clothing have passed under our supervision, and, indeed, almost every garment has been given out by our hands. Almost every article of special diet has been cooked by Mrs. Bickerdyke personally, and all has been superintended by her. I speak of this particularly, as it is a wonderful fulfillment of the promise, 'As thy day is, so shall thy strength be.'"

—

Again, writing from Alatoona, Ga., June 14th: "I have just visited a tent filled with 'amputated cases.' They are noble young men, the pride and hope of loving families at the North, but most of them are so low that they will never again return to them. Each had a special request for 'something that he could relish.' I made my way quickly down from the heights, where the hospital tents are pitched, and sought for the food they craved. I found it among the goods of the Sanitary Commission—and now the dried currants, cherries, and other fruit are stewing; we have unsoldered cans containing condensed milk and preserved fruit—and the poor fellows will not be disappointed in their expectations."

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We refrain from saying much that we know about Mrs. Porter's labors in the Western Department, where she has been most of the time since the war began, her modesty even in the foregoing report leading her to speak of others rather than herself, but as children often illustrate the parents, we insert an incident of the late severe battle before Atlanta, as we find it described by a correspondent of the *New York Tribune:*

"Speaking of artillery and heroism, I should notice the gallant conduct of private James B. Porter, of Battery A., 1st Illinois Light Artillery, on the 22d. This young man, who has served his country over three years, having re-enlisted as a veteran, has won the love and respect of both officers and privates by the modest bravery he has from time to time exhibited. On the 22d instant his section was posted near our skirmish line in front of Gen. Morgan L. Smith, 2d Division, 15th Corps, when the 111th Illinois and 53d Ohio, Col. Jones, were driven in by a superior force of the enemy, who made a dash at the two guns and captured them. Young Porter remained faithfully at his post till the rebels fairly swarmed over the battery, when he determined not to surrender, and fell as though mortally wounded at the side of a dead comrade, and for half an hour he feigned to be dead, during which time he was kicked twice, and was nearly crushed to death by the crowd of rebels flocking to examine the guns.

The tide of victory, it will be remembered, suddenly turned, and our troops were pursuing the retreating foe. As soon as Porter discovered that the "Johnnies" were falling back pretty rapidly, he seized a musket belonging to a dead infantryman who lay close beside him in a pool of blood, and gathering up a handful of cartridges, he was not long in loading the musket and sending its leaden messengers after the deceived "chivalry." Yesterday young Porter was Acting Orderly Sergeant, and had charge of two pieces of artillery which were held in reserve in rear of our main line. Private James B. Porter is a son of the Rev. Jeremiah Porter, now serving as Chaplain of the same battery to which his son is attached. Mrs. Jeremiah Porter has devoted her services for the past six months to the care of sick and wounded soldiers in this army, enduring untold hardships. The three members of this family are all with this army at the present time. Young Porter is an educated Christian gentleman, and a fine specimen of the true American volunteer soldier, having graduated with high honors at Beloit College."

WHAT THE AUXILIARY RELIEF CORPS HAS DONE.

We conclude in the present number the extracts from the interesting letters from the Auxiliary Relief Corps, publication of which was commenced in the BULLETIN of August 15.

MR. S. F. JAYNE.

A COLORED HOSPITAL.

About the 20th of June last a special field hospital for colored troops was established at this place. A squad of Sanitary Relief Corps, under direction of Miss Helen L. Gilson, has been here for three weeks, giving attention in various ways to the sick and wounded—in the same manner as to white soldiers. It has in this time administered to some three hundred sick and wounded men. It has furnished all of the light diet for the hospital.

A large majority of those admitted to this hospital have been the sick; therefore, the demand for light diet has been greater than for the same number of wounded men. In many respects the work here is peculiar. While the men are patient in their sufferings, they are generally otherwise childish, with little judgment in taking care of themselves. It is often difficult to ascertain their diseases; and they give vague and unsatisfactory answers when questioned in regard to them.

Nearly all complain of "misery in the breast," and very many have diseases of the lungs added to other troubles. It is evident that many have been allowed to enter the service who are physically incapable of performing the duties of the soldier.

The hospital, until lately, has been quite deficient in the means necessary for making the men comfortable. Many were for a long time without beds. The wards were not supplied with cups and spoons, and other conveniences for feeding the men. Many of these things we have furnished for them. Among other things, some two hundred tin cups, one hundred spoons, thirty wash-basins, one hundred and twenty-five beds, two hundred shirts and drawers, a large number of blankets, socks, towels, handkerchiefs, head-rests, fans, oranges, lemons, etc.

Few of the nurses are fit for their duties, being entirely without experience in taking care of the sick. Many of them were nearly sick when assigned to duty. Few of them can read or write, and it was deemed unsafe to intrust them with the administration of medicine.

The hospital has suffered from want of sufficient help to do the police and other work necessary to keep things orderly and clean.

Besides the daily amount of light diet, we have several times furnished crackers in bulk to the steward, upon his requisition to supply deficiencies in his bread rations. We furnish stimulants twice a day to all of the low cases that need it. Besides a liberal distribution of indispensable articles, many little comforts have been furnished to the men. Letters have been written for them, for which they appear especially grateful. The Bible has been read to them, and some religious instruction given to them, which they always listen to with interest and delight. Many of those who cannot read express a strong desire to learn, and in order to encourage this feeling, some two hundred spelling books have been ordered for them.

It is hoped that opportunity may be found to afford them systematically some instruction, religious and otherwise, for which their simple-hearted and childish natures are ever eager. It is also hoped that our efforts for these men may become constantly more effective.

Besides the sick and wounded, there are in camp here about fifty fugitive slaves, women and children. They are very destitute, and we have supplied them to some extent with needed articles. They now receive rations from the Government, and some of the women are employed in washing and cooking for the hospital.

—

REV. W. J. POTTER,

AT VARIOUS "BASES."

I entered the service of the Sanitary Commission at Fredericksburg, about the 20th of May. The Commission had done its greatest work there before my arrival, but still its agents were very busy. The wounded men being removed to Washington, and one element of the Commission's work to which I was first introduced, was the caring for the sufferers while they were being transported from the hospitals to the boats and cars. The trains particularly were very irregular in their times of running, and in their capacity for carrying. Several times wounded men were taken over the river for a particular train, who had to wait several hours, or the whole night without any provision for rations or shelter, until the train should leave. Once a train was loaded, and for some reason the men were again taken out and placed on the ground for the night. A certain number of the Commission were called upon for several nights in succession to go over and feed and care for the men the best way they could.

It was a hard service; the nights were dark, once or twice rainy, and the ground was very muddy; there was nothing to make the service pleasant, save the consciousness that many a poor sufferer was

relieved of some of his wretchedness, and many a one who must otherwise have perished, was saved to life. The Government had done little or nothing for these detained men. It was left for the Sanitary and other charitable Commissions to provide for their wants.

I worked also at Fredericksburg, in the 6th Corps' Hospital, during the last few days that Fredericksburg was held by our army. The Sanitary Commission furnished largely to this hospital, both in the way of articles of food and clothing, and its agents were indefatigable as nurses.

At Port Royal, the next base, no hospitals were established, and our work was to care for the wounded from the general feeding station, as they came in, and during the day or two that they might remain in the village before being sent North. We met the wagon trains with their suffering freight, half or three-quarters of a mile from our station, with buckets of soup and tea, and milk and punch, and crackers.

Oftener than not, the trains arrived by night, so that our work was quite as much by night as by day. Some of our party carried merely water for wetting wounds—a service that was welcome as any—others were dressers, and dressed the wounds of the men in the wagons or by the way-side.

The houses and stores, too, were filled with wounded, and these also were looked up and cared for, until they were removed.

At White House the same work was renewed—only the hospitals took more permanent shape, and more system could be introduced. I was here assigned to service under Mr. Marshall, in the 9th Corps, with which I have since been connected.

On coming to City Point, the withdrawal of Mr. Marshall left me in charge of the Sanitary work for the 9th Corps' Hospital. We established our tent on Sunday, June 19th; only a few hospital tents had then been erected, and there were only sixty patients present. These were but slightly wounded, and were able to walk. The next day a train of three hundred more severely wounded arrived, and in a few days our number went up to twelve hundred, but the hospital is now reduced by removals to three hundred and thirty-eight, according to this morning's report. I estimate that there have been something over two thousand different patients in the hospital during the three weeks. During the first two weeks we issued very largely of all kinds of sanitary stores, particularly of clothing. Most of the men, on account of the long campaign, and the heat and dust, came in very needy. We gave all the worst cases clean clothing. It has not been possible to keep an accurate account of all the stores delivered, but I judge we have given out at least one thousand shirts and one thousand pairs of drawers. The great demand is now over, and the Government is also better provided with supplies of all kinds than at first. The tents are now all furnished with bedsteads, and most of them with mattresses.

The grounds are are well policed, and the hospital is being put into the condition of a permanent general hospital as rapidly as possible. On an average we have had here a force of eight or nine Sanitary agents. These are assigned to sections of five or six wards each, and attend to the distribution of sanitary articles through their respective sections, and somewhat to cases of special diet and to the wants of the patients generally, so far as they can be supplied from our stores or by personal care.

One of our number has busied himself for two days past in making foot-tubs for his wards out of tamarind kegs. They prove an excellent thing, and I would suggest whether it would not be well for the Commission to furnish foot-tubs to every hospital, so that each ward may have one, or something that will answer for one.

* * * * *

—

Rev. A. B. Hyde.

in the second corps.

I arrived at City Point June 24th. Being presented to Mr. Fay, and finding my old college friend, Orange Judd, present, already initiated and full of labors, I was able at once to commence some efforts to be useful.

That evening we made our way through "a hundred circling camps," reaching the hospital of the 2d, 5th, 6th, and 9th Corps. For two hours we distributed little comforts, newspapers, tobacco, etc. The next day I was early sent to the ground, and had a full view of the work.

To bring at least 6,000 (we counted 5,924 without counting the negro cavalry) suffering men to anything like home comfort, seemed an impossible task.

But I found in the 2d Corps, to which I was assigned, faithful and experienced men, from whom I learned what to do and how to do it. To feed and bathe, to get a fan, a hat and handkerchief, to furnish paper and pencil, perhaps to write for a helpless man, to pity and pray for the sick and dying, those things filled up the day very full.

Pain in all its forms was before us, and as we tried to mitigate it, constant blessings were showered on the Commission and its labors. As rapidly as the nature of their maladies allowed, the patients were removed to General Hospitals. But there was yet enough to be done. My work grew dearer as I comprehended it better. It was with pain that I found my own health rapidly failing, and obtaining no relief, I felt

it my duty to return home. I had learned to feel the highest respect for my fellow-workers, and had seen with my own eyes the excellent humanities of the Sanitary Commission.

—

Mr. A. W. Sperry.

AT CITY POINT.

I have to report that the members of the Relief Corps attached to the 6th Corps' Hospital at the base arrived at this place on the 18th ult., and on the 20th took up its place in the hospital then erecting.

No sick or wounded arrived for several days, giving us time for preparation to receive them. Several wards of tents were erected, bedsteads of poles with bed-sacks filled with hay were furnished, and the kitchen put in order. When, at length, wounded and sick did come in, they were placed in comfortable quarters and cared for immediately. We have thus far been able to keep in advance of the demand upon us. Several hundred beds are, and have been in constant readiness. The largest number of patients at any one time has been about eight hundred.

The sanitary condition of this hospital is excellent. The camp has been thoroughly policed, the sinks kept free from odor, and the wards have been carefully cleansed of impurities. No cases of camp disease of any kind have occurred. Men come in stripped of everything, without as much as a tin cup, and with clothing dirty beyond description. In several instances they have arrived when there were no Government stores to draw upon. Then our men have gone about among them, and with their own hands furnished nice clean shirts, drawers, and socks, in exchange for those covered with blood, dust and vermin; and cups and spoons with which to take their food.

To the "light diet" kitchen, we have furnished delicacies and vegetables, and two kettles for cooking them. Personal inspection has proved that the food furnished has been well cooked, as a rule, and that it has reached the men.

In many ways the men feel the influence of the Commission besides in diet and clothing. In our daily visits to the wards, we carry soap, towels, handkerchiefs, tobacco, pipes, sponges, letter-paper and envelopes, oranges, lemons, sugar, &c., &c.

A full supply of checker-boards and puzzles kept the convalescents busy for days, while last, but not least, a half hundred Jews-harps made the camp musical to the point of genuine fun.

At Fredericksburg, as a private arrangement, we employed colored women to wash clothing that would not otherwise have been washed. At White House the enterprise was undertaken by the Commission, but the change of base prevented anything being done before coming here; the work was again taken up. After the first few days a washing-machine was furnished, two caldrons were set up, and three colored women employed at an expense of eight dollars per month, the Government giving them rations. Although unable to get sufficient water, from fifty to one hundred pieces have been washed daily; and now, with additional women, furnished by Government, fifty blankets and a hundred pieces of clothing can be washed each day.

No enterpise has *paid* as well for the money invested. Although a proportion of the clothing washed thus far would have been thrown away had it not been for the conveniences furnished by the Commission,

In conclusion, experience has thus far shown, that except in extreme cases, when there is a large and sudden influx of patients, the work of dressing and nursing can be well performed by the regular hospital attendants, while personal attention is given to the diet kitchen and the distribution of miscellaneous articles by the members of the Commission. In this way we can be certain that the right things reach the right men at the right time.

WESTERN DEPARTMENT.

The following list gives the principal shipments from the Depot at Louisville to Gen. Sherman's army, from the 2d of June to the 25th of July:

113 blankets.	3,511 galls. pickles.
498 bed ticks.	4,119 bush. potatoes.
2,107 pillows.	1,874 galls. ale and cider.
2,990 pillow cases.	3,110 lbs. pearl barley.
1,600 sheets.	1,885 lbs. corn starch.
8,953 shirts.	4,623 lbs. farina.
5,534 pairs drawers.	920 mosquito bars.
285 dressing gowns.	231 arm slings.
1,249 pairs slippers.	275 finger stalls.
9,165 towels and handk'chs.	3,466 fans.
253 pairs socks.	152 bots. lime juice.
15,321 lbs. bandages & rags.	960 cans oysters.
1,047 cushions and pads.	80 tons ice.
241 pin cushions.	3,690 lbs. concen'd beef.
50,447 lbs. crockers.	25,920 lbs. " milk.
45,985 lbs. dried fruit.	317 lbs. dried beef.
12,306 lbs. cod fish.	77 boxes oranges & lemons.
7,520 lbs butter.	2,370 doz. eggs.
12,047 bots. wine & spirits.	2,279 cans fruit.
74 galls. apple butter.	

DEPARTMENT OF THE GULF.

United States Sanitary Commission,
Department of the Gulf,
New Orleans, *July 28th*, 1864.

T. W. Sherman, *Brig.-Gen.*,
Commanding Defenses of New Orleans:

General—I have to-day the honor of submitting, in accordance with your request, the enclosed schedule of issues from the depot of the U. S. Sanitary Commission in this city to the troops within this Department, for the quarter ending July 1, 1864.

It represents very fairly the character of our supplies, as well as the average rate of their disbursement.

The market value of these issues would, probably, somewhat exceed seventy-five thousand dollars.

About 30 per cent. of our issues have been used in the general hospitals of the Department, or have been employed in furnishing and equipping the boats engaged in the hospital transport service.

Most of our stores, however, are sent directly into the field, and in the hands of responsible agents, are distributed, mainly through the Medical Department—wherever and whenever there may be an occasion for the use of extraordinary supplies.

It has never been the purpose of the Sanitary Commission at any time to compete with the Government in the very liberal provision it has made for the comfort and health of our armies. The distribution of supplies constitutes but one of the agencies of the Commission. In many ways it has endeavored to aid the soldier, and promote and encourage the efficiency of the service. Still I am happy in being able to assure you that it is a matter of no little satisfaction that the more material results of our efforts should have been included among the "resources" of the military authorities in this Department.

Yours very respectfully,

EDWARD A. CRANE,
Agent U. S. Sanitary Commission.

Issues from the Depot of the U. S. Sanitary Commission at New Orleans, Department of the Gulf, for the Quarter ending June 30, 1864.

HOSPITAL FURNITURE, &C.

445 blankets.	2,214 towels.
852 bed ticks.	399 tin cups.
11 bed pans.	53 tin basins.
862 cushions.	24 urinals.
2 head rests.	60 flannel bandages.
19 lanterns.	15 eye shades.
72 medicine cups.	51 prs. crutches.
599 mosquito bars.	16 lbs. chloroform.
623 pillows.	25 bots. chloride of soda.
2,318 pillow cases.	1,442 fans.
143 pillow ticks.	15 bbls. old linen & cotton pieces.
426 quilts.	
2,527 sheets.	10½ bbls. roll bandages.
98 sponges.	21 arm slings.
20 yds. oil silk.	20 lbs. candles.
4 yds. rubber sheeting.	13 catheters.
137 lbs. soap.	

CLOTHING.

4,871 prs. cotton drawers.	1,639 combs.
999 prs. woolen "	172 prs. shoes.
740 prs. canton flannel do.	1,726 prs. slippers.
3,446 handkerchiefs.	2,414 prs. socks.
343 prs. pants.	934 wrappers.
6,503 cotton shirts.	181 coats.
1,563 woolen "	19 vests.
682 canton fl. "	139 hair brushes.

HOSPITAL FOOD AND DELICACIES.

860 lbs. beef stock.	¼ bbl. cracked wheat.
1,453 lbs. chocolate.	21 papers black pepper.
3,942 lbs. condensed milk.	29 papers ginger.
1,857 lbs. corn starch.	10 bottles "pain killer."
1,748 lbs. farina.	57 bottles horse radish.
310 cans canned fruit.	57 bottles lemon syrup.
621 cans canned tomatoes.	24 bottles cologne.
1 bbl. pop corn.	3,650 lbs. cod fish.
30 cases lemons.	120 lbs. tea.
500 cases bread.	213 lbs. tobacco.
3 kegs butter.	1 bbl. vinegar.
55 bottles bermo plant.	12 bbls. ale.
39 lbs. arrow root.	650 doz. eggs.
65 lbs. cocoa.	95 bottles bay rum.
202 bbls. crackers.	1 bbl. syrup.
2 bbls. corn meal.	1 bbl. ginger snaps.
102 bbls. dried fruit.	2 bbls. lager beer.
171 jars jellies.	4 boxes catsup.
714 lbs. pearl barley.	12 kegs jellies.
22 hams.	1 keg blackberry cordial.
386 boxes prep'd lemonade.	196 botts. " "
84 bottles mustard.	3,088 bottles claret.
44 bottles cayenne pepper.	60 bottles port wine.
1,723 bbls. vegetables, mostly potatoes.	347 bottles whisky.
	108 bottles sherry.
89 bbls. cabbage in currie.	300 bottles brandy.
26 bbls. saur kraut.	140 bottles bitters.
395 bbls. or kegs pickles.	908 bottles assorted wines.
12¼ bbls. white sugar.	71 bots. ext. Jamaica ginger
7 cans extract of coffee.	272 bots. raspberry vinegar.
2 bbls. oat meal.	1,500 lbs. ice.
1 bbl. tongues.	15 lbs. sago.

MISCELLANEOUS.

3 gross pens.	5 boxes old magazines and papers.
60 reams writing paper.	
50,000 envelopes.	2 gross pipes.
3½ bbls. lint.	

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OBJECTS OF THE ASSOCIATION.

1*st. To secure the soldiers and sailors and their families, any claims for pensions, pay, or bounty, etc., without cost to the claimant.*

2*d. To protect soldiers or sailors and their families from imposture and fraud.*

3*d. To prevent false claims from being made against the Government.*

4*th. To give gratuitous advice and information to soldiers and sailors or their families needing it.*

THE U. S. SANITARY COMMISSION

Was constituted by the Secretary of War in June, 1861, in accordance with the recommendation of the Surgeon-General of the U. S. Army, and its appointment and plan of organization were approved by the President of the United States. Its present organization is as follows:

H. W. Bellows, D.D., New York.
A. D. Bache, LL.D., Washington, D. C.
F. L. Olmsted, California.
George T. Strong, Esq., New York.
Elisha Harris, M.D., New York.
W. H. Van Buren, M.D., New York.
A. E. Shiras, U. S. A.
R. C. Wood, Assistant Surg.-Gen'l U. S. A.
Wolcott Gibbs, M.D., New York.
S. G. Howe, M.D., Boston, Mass.
C. R. Agnew, M.D., New York.
J. S. Newberry, M.D., Cleveland, Ohio.
Rt. Rev. T. M. Clarke, Providence, R. I.
Hon. R. W. Burnett, Cincinnati, Ohio.
Hon. Mark Skinner, Chicago, Ill.
Hon. Joseph Holt, Washington, D. C.
Horace Binney, Jr., Philadelphia, Penn.
Rev. J. H. Heywood, Louisville, Ky.
J. Huntington Wolcott, Boston, Mass.
Prof. Fairman Rogers, Philadelphia, Penn.
C. J. Stillé. " "
Ezra B. McCagg, Chicago, Ill.

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H. W. Bellows, D.D., President.
A. D. Bache, LL.D., Vice-President.
George T. Strong, Treasurer.
J. Foster Jenkins, M.D., General Secretary.
J. S. Newberry, M.D., Associate Secretary.
J. H. Douglas, M.D., Associate Secretary.
F. N. Knapp, Associate Secretary.

STANDING COMMITTEE.

Henry W. Bellows, D.D.
George T. Strong.
William H. Van Buren, M.D.
Wolcott Gibbs, M.D.
C. R. Agnew, M.D.

HOSPITAL DIRECTORY.

The Sanitary Commission has made arrangements for supplying information gratuitously, with regard to patients in all the United States General Hospitals.

For information relative to patients in the Hospitals in New York, New Jersey, the New England States, Eastern Virginia, Maryland, District of Columbia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Florida and Louisiana, address "Office of Sanitary Commission, Washington, D. C."

For the Hospitals in Pennsylvania, address "Office of Sanitary Commission, No. 1,307 Chestnut Street, Philadelphia."

For the Hospitals in Western Virginia, Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Missouri, Iowa, Kentucky, Tennessee, Mississippi, and Arkansas, address "Office Sanitary Commission, Louisville, Ky."

In all cases the name, rank, company, and regiment of the person inquired for should be given, and where he was when last heard from. If the application is by letter, the answer will be sent by return of mail; if in person, it will be answered at once; or if by telegraph, an answer will be returned immediately at the inquirer's expense.

☞ Soldiers' Aid Societies, clergymen, editors, and others, can scarcely serve the cause of humanity more effectually than by frequently and widely disseminating a knowledge of the above, among those who have friends in the army.

SUPPLY DEPARTMENT.

The Sanitary Commission, under special authority of the President of the United States, maintains an extensive system of agencies for securing the safe conveyance to, and distribution of, goods put in its charge for the sick and wounded at points where they are most wanted. It operates with equal care and generosity at all points—at New Orleans and at Washington, before Charleston and at Chattanooga—its distributions being governed by a comparison of the wants of the patients in all cases. The following is a list of depots, to which auxiliary societies, and all disposed to aid the sick and wounded, without reference to States or localities, but simply to their relative necessity for assistance, are invited to send their offerings:

Sanitary Commission, Branch Depot, No. 18 West Street, Boston, Mass.
Sanitary Commission, Branch Depot, No. 10 3d Avenue, New York.
Sanitary Commission, Branch Depot, No. 1,307 Chestnut Street, Philadelphia.
Sanitary Commission, Branch Depot, No. 46 South Sharp Street, Baltimore, Md.
Sanitary Commission, Branch Depot, corner Vine and Sixth Streets, Cincinnati, O.
Sanitary Commission, Branch Depot, No. 95 Bank Street, Cleveland, O.
Sanitary Commission, Branch Depot, No. 66 Madison Street, Chicago, Ill.
Sanitary Commission, Branch Depot, No. 2 Adam's Block, Buffalo, New York.
Sanitary Commission, Branch Depot, No. 59 4th Street, Pittsburg, Penn.
Sanitary Commission, Branch Depot, No. 32 Larned Street, Detroit, Mich.
Sanitary Commission, Branch Depot, Columbus, Ohio.
Sanitary Commission, Branch Depot, Fifth Street, Louisville, Ky.

The Commission receives no pecuniary aid whatever from the Government, and is wholly dependent on the voluntary contributions of the public for the means of sustaining its operations. Contributions to the Treasury are solicited, and may be transmitted to George T. Strong, Esq., Treasurer, 68 Wall Street, N. Y.

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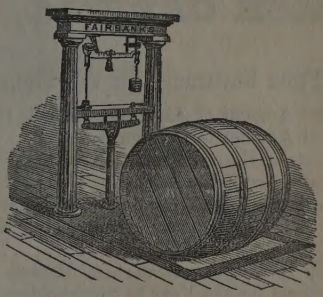

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OFFICE OF THE

Columbian (Marine) Insurance COMPANY,

CORNER OF WALL AND NASSAU STREETS.

CASH CAPITAL, - - - $1,000,000.

From Statement for the Sixth Fiscal Year, ending December 31, 1863.

Total Amount of Assets, January 1, 1864	$3,140,930 80
Total Amount of Premiums	3,252,256 76
Excess of Earned Premiums over Losses, &c.	1,137,063 33
Reserve for Estimate Claims Unadjusted and other Contingencies	441,206 49
Guaranteed Cash Dividend to Dealers, (holding certificates of same) on Paid Premiums Earned during the Year, whether Loss has Accrued or not	269,614 80
Scrip Dividend to Dealers, on Earned Premiums	15 per cent.
Dividend for the Year to Stockholders	26 per cent.

LOSSES PAID IN GOLD upon Risks on which the Premium is paid in like Currency.

DEALERS WITH THIS COMPANY will be allowed the option (to be signified at the time of application for insurance) of receiving in lieu of scrip, at the end of each year, RETURNS IN CASH, (guaranteed by certificate) of premiums paid and earned during the year, whether loss accrues or not, upon all new risks under the NEW YORK FORM OF POLICY, as follows:

1st. Upon all VOYAGE Risks upon CARGO, a return of TWENTY-FIVE PER CENT.

2d. Upon VOYAGE Risks upon FREIGHT, a return of TWENTY PER CENT.

3d. Upon TIME Risks upon FREIGHT, and upon VOYAGE and TIME Risks upon HULLS, a return of TEN PER CENT.

Such privilege, however, being confined to persons and firms, the aggregate of whose premiums upon such policies earned and paid during the year, shall amount to the sum of one hundred dollars.

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